

**City of St. Augustine, Florida  
Archaeology Program**

**A PRELIMINARY  
CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT  
OF FISH ISLAND:  
THE 18th-CENTURY PLANTATION HOME OF JESSE FISH  
(8SJ62)**



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## INTRODUCTION

The annexation in 1998 of a 47-acre parcel of land by the City of St. Augustine, Florida, and its impending development required that the City undertake a review and assessment of the archaeological resources present. The project area consists of 35 acres of land, including Fish Island, and a 12-acre parcel north of State Road 312 (Figure 1). The property area under investigation is part of a much larger development known as Harbor Island, which consists of approximately 175 acres (Figure 2). Staff of the City of St. Augustine Archaeology Program already has surveyed about 22 acres of the development east of Fish Island for potential archaeological resources (Halbirt 1999a). Except for some isolated twentieth-century hunting blinds found at the edges of the marsh within palmetto and oak thickets, no other archaeological resources were documented. In 1999, clearance was recommended for development to proceed of Ashley Oaks Assisted Living Facility and Harbor Island Multifamily Community.

The current investigation was based on the presence of a known historical plantation on Fish Island (8SJ62). It was owned by Jesse Fish and his heirs from ca. 1760 to the 1820s. The plantation site, known as “El Vergel” (The Garden), has been on the Florida Master Site File since 1971; it was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places in 1971 (Appendix A). The property is situated along the marsh environments of the Matanzas River and thus has a high probability of containing prehistoric Native American archaeological sites (Deagan 1981; Madry, Smith, and Whitehill 2001).

The City’s investigation of Fish Island was conducted under the auspices of its Archaeological Preservation Ordinance (89-38). This ordinance requires that an archaeological assessment be undertaken if three conditions are met: 1) that construction involves ground-penetrating activities, 2) that the extent of construction is more than 100 square feet in area and 3 inches deep, and 3) that project site occurs within a defined archaeological zone or contains potentially significant archaeological resources (Halbirt 1993a). The intent of the ordinance is not to stop construction or change construction plans, but to preserve St. Augustine’s unique cultural heritage through documentation. The aim of any project is to

Site location information redacted per Ch. 267.135, *Florida Statues*.

1) understand the nature of the archaeological remains that are buried on the property; 2) determine how those remains will be impacted by construction; and 3) integrate the data into research goals that are intended to address St. Augustine's growth and development, ethnic affiliations and interactions, culture history, and past lifeways (Halbirt 1999b:60-61).

The property was evaluated for its archaeological significance following standard procedures for data recovery (Halbirt 1992). First, a visual examination was made of surface remains on the property, followed by a systematic shovel- and auger-survey to determine the extent of human occupation across the project area. Then test units were excavated in selected locations to evaluate the nature of subsurface archaeological deposits.

Preliminary results of this project indicate that in addition to the historic plantation site previously recorded, prehistoric Native American sites also are present on the property. These deposits are primarily associated with the St. Johns cultural tradition and were found as three separate concentrations. The largest of these concentrations occurs toward the center of Fish Island where the ground surface elevation is at its maximum. The other two prehistoric components are much smaller in area and are north of the main concentration—one is just south of the State Road 312 bridge and the other is within the 12-acre parcel north of State Road 312.

The plantation complex consists of three discrete and disparate components: 1) the main house complex; 2) the ruins of a wharf where goods and people were transported across the bay to St. Augustine; and 3) the tabby ruins north of State Road 312. The main house complex consists of the coquina-stone ruins of the main house, a well, and a probable blockhouse or sentry lookout, as well as scattered artifact deposits associated with what are probably the slave residences. Sheet trash (i.e., artifacts dispersed atop the ground surface) was found in some areas. The historic component overlays a portion of the large prehistoric midden. The other two historic areas are north of the main house complex. The wharf is at a small alcove adjacent to the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (the Matanzas River) and consists of a parallel alignment of coquina stone with earthen fill in between, which forms a platform. The third component is north of State Road 312 and consists of the remains of a tabby wall that may have served as warehouses and/or processing locations for the plantation's exports. In addition to these three observable

components, isolated concentrations of coquina stone are found south of the main house: one is a historical tomb, the other is debris from twentieth-century activities on the island.

This investigation is the first formal inquiry into the nature of archaeological deposits present on Fish Island. Earlier documentation consisted of visual inspection of the site, but no attempt at excavation (cf. Steinbach 1971). The only archaeological inquiry that has been conducted in the project area was in response to road improvements and bridge construction along State Route 312 in the 1990s (Southerland 1993; Stokes 1996). Except for a few aboriginal potsherds found at the site of a retention pond, no other archaeological deposits were documented. The potsherds found in two of four auger tests from retention pond No. 2 were given a site designation (8SJ3299) and a name—the Troll Site (Stokes 1996: 8), although it was concluded that little integrity remained of the archaeological deposits at this site.

The results reported here are preliminary. The investigation involved an initial systematic archaeological shovel- and auger-survey of the project area, which was followed by limited test excavations in certain areas. The intent was to document the nature and extent of archaeological deposits on the property, which in turn can be used to develop a more comprehensive data-recovery program. This report was prepared in response to a request by the present property owners (Thompson Brothers Realty Inc., et al.), despite the fact that archaeological investigations are incomplete. Recommendations for future work on the property are posited below.

## PROJECT LOCATION

The project area occurs along the east side of the Matanzas River where the Mickler-O'Connell Bridge (State Road 312) crosses onto Anastasia Island (Figure 1). The location is currently part of the terrestrial landscape of Anastasia Island; however, this is a recent phenomenon. Prior to the late 1920s, Fish Island was separated from Anastasia Island by a tidal marsh as illustrated by the Des Barres Map of 1780, the Dorr Map of 1860, and the A. P. Davis Map of 1925. The cause of this change was the development speculation during the Florida Boom of the 1920s. Numerous investors, such as A. P. Davis, reclaimed large portions of the marsh habitat along the east banks of the Matanzas River by depositing dredge spoil for residential development (Kixmiller 1973).

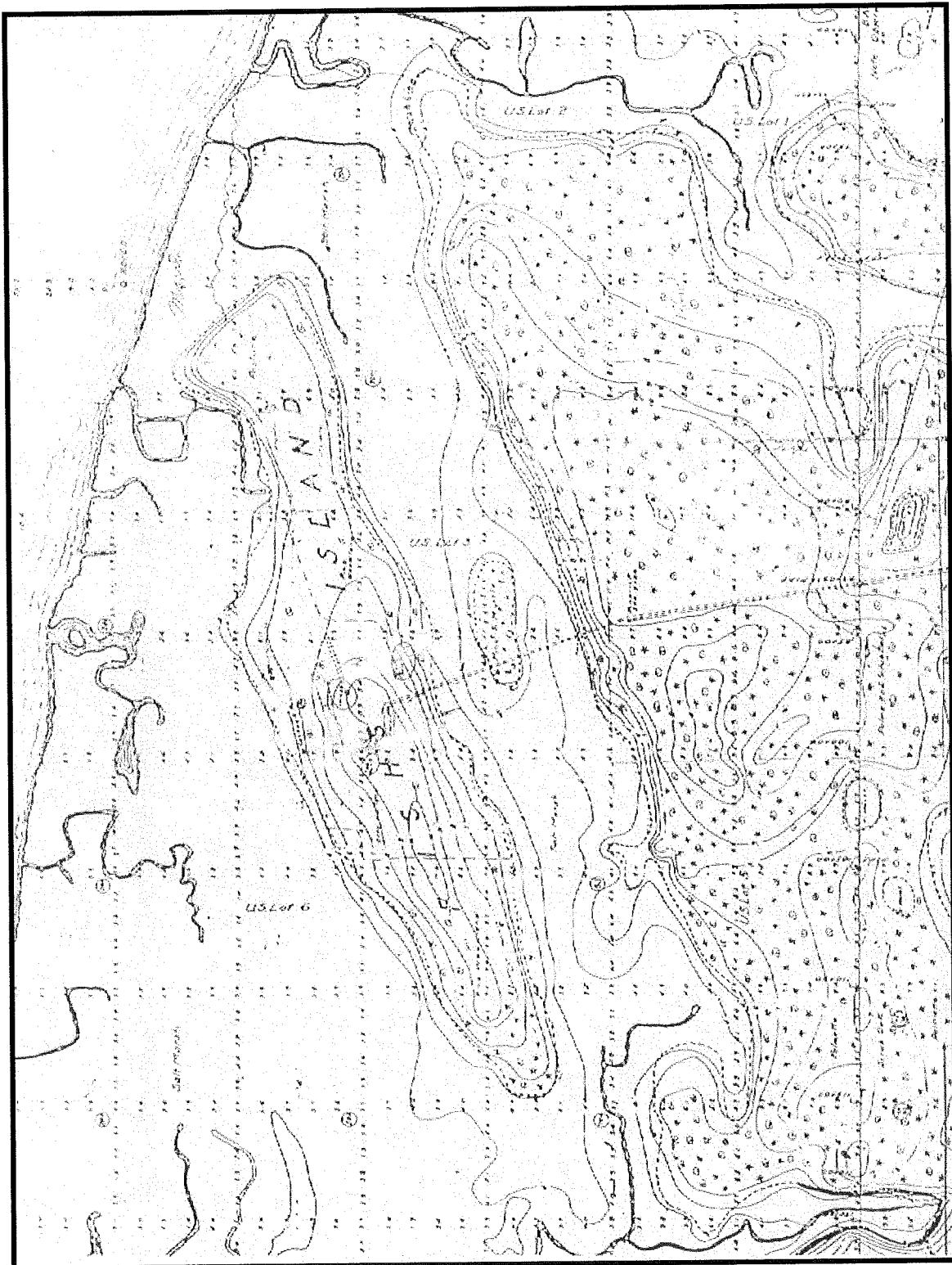
A map drawn for A. P. Davis in 1925 illustrates what the historical topography of the project area looked like prior to reclamation of the marsh environment (Figure 3). It is evident that the topography was low-lying and the elevation was within 6 feet of the mean low water (MLW) mark.<sup>1</sup> Most of Fish Island was from 2 to 3 feet above MLW except along a north-south ridge that was situated toward the center of the island, which reached 10 feet above MLW. The parcel of land west of Fish Island also was relatively low-lying. The exception was the 12-acre parcel of land north of State Road 312, portions of which extended to an elevation of 11 feet above MLW.

The low-lying, level nature of the project area has resulted in the formation of different types of fine sands that are poorly drained (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture 1983). For one of the soil types present in the project area (i.e., the Adamsville variant fine sand) it has been noted that

early settlers added large quantities of oyster shells to the soil as a soil amendment. Crop residue was added to the soil at regular periods, and the soil was tilled to a depth of about 10 to 15 inches. These practices have greatly increased the organic matter content and thickness of the surface layer (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture 1983:47).

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<sup>1</sup> The mean low water (MLW) mark indicated on the A. P. Davis Map of 1925 is based on the Fernandina Datum, which recorded the U. S. benchmark on the seawall at the corner of King Street and Avenida Menendez at 8.96 ft.



**Figure 3:** The A.P. Davis Map of 1925 (*Courtesy of Mr. Pierre Thompson*)

The importance of this observation will become evident in the discussion of the test units excavated in the project area.

The topography and soil characteristics have a direct bearing on the vegetation composition in the project area. A dry coastal hardwood hammock is present in elevated areas (Figure 4), whereas adjacent low-lying areas are subject to periodic flooding, which results in a saltwater lagoon-marsh environment (Figure 5). Vegetation within the dry hammock is a mixture of southern red cedar, live oak, laurel oak, pigmy hickory, wild grape, long-leaf and slash pines, wax myrtle, cabbage palm, and panicum. Characteristic vegetation in the saltwater lagoon-marsh zone is smooth cordgrass in saltier areas and needlerush in brackish or freshwater areas.

Both zones offer diverse resources capable of sustaining human populations (Deagan 1981). The rich nutrient base of the lagoon-marsh zone supports a variety of shellfish, crustaceans, waterfowl, fish, and sea mammals and land mammals, making it an ideal resource-procurement area. But the constant tidal fluctuations do not make it amenable for human settlement (Smith and Bond 1984:30). The dry hammock offers not only exploitable plant and animal resources (e.g., cabbage palm, pignut hickory, wild grape, white-tailed deer, squirrel, marsh rabbit, turtles, and various migratory birds), but provides a habitat suitable for human occupation that would result in the formation of archaeological sites (Deagan 1981; Smith and Bond 1984). A subtropical, maritime climate characterized by long, warm, humid summers and mild, dry winters (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture 1983) contributes to this resource cornucopia.

The environmentally diverse setting of the project area offers a perfect habitat for human occupation throughout the entire year or portions thereof. To understand when the project area was settled and by whom requires an understanding of the region's cultural history.



**Figure 4:** View of Coastal Hardwood Hammock on Fish Island



**Figure 5:** View of Fish Island and the Surrounding Marsh

## REGIONAL CULTURAL HISTORY

The project area is situated in a region with a high probability for both prehistoric and historical cultural resources (Madry, Smith, and Whitehill 2001: Figure 8.33). Not only is it near St. Augustine, the oldest, continuously occupied European settlement in the United States, but numerous prehistoric sites occur in the immediate vicinity, and especially on the west bank of the Matanzas River (Figure 6). The following presents the region's cultural history, focusing primarily on those time periods that are represented by both documented and undocumented sites in the project area.

### **Indigenous Native Americans**

Florida has been home to indigenous Native Americans for the past 12,000 years. These people eventually created distinct cultural traditions based on regional environmental conditions. According to Milanich (1994), Northeast Florida, including St. Johns County, lies within the East and Central District of Florida, where settlement-subsistence patterns were adapted to the exploitation of riverine and coastal resources (cf. Larson 1980). Eventually, agriculture became a component of these settlement-subsistence strategies.

The chronology of this region can be divided into four broadly based periods: PaleoIndian, Archaic, Woodland, and Mississippian (Table 1). The general temporal and cultural markers for these four periods have been discussed by Milanich (1994) for Northeast Florida and by Madry, Smith, and Whitehill (2001) for St. Johns County and need not be reiterated here. Suffice it to say, the earliest periods (i.e., the PaleoIndian to Middle Archaic) have been poorly documented in Northeast Florida, which has led some to conclude that the area was sparsely populated and/or utilized until the late preceramic period, or ca. 4,000 years ago (Miller 1998). This absence corresponds to an episode of environmental flux caused by global warming, which resulted in melting Ice-Age glaciers and a corresponding rise in sea levels. It was not until environmental and climatic conditions began to ameliorate (ca. 5,000 B.C.) that conditions (e.g., the development of wetlands) became favorable for human colonization of Northeast Florida. By 3,000 B.C. the environment was essentially the same as it is today.

Site location information redacted per Ch. 267.135, *Florida Statues*.

<u>Cultural Period</u>	<u>Temporal Placement</u>
<b>PALEOINDIAN</b>	<b>? – 8,000 B.C.</b>
<b>ARCHAIC</b>  Early Middle Late - Mt. Taylor Orange	<b>8,000 – 500 B.C.</b>  <b>8,000 – 6,000 B.C.</b> <b>6,000 – 4,000 B.C.</b> <b>4,000 – 2,000 B.C.</b> <b>2,000 – 500 B.C.</b>
<b>WOODLAND</b>  St. Johns I	<b>500 B.C. – A.D. 700</b>  <b>500 B.C. – A.D. 750</b>
<b>MISSISSIPPIAN</b>  St. Johns II	<b>A.D. 900 – 1500+</b>  <b>A.D. 750 – 1565</b>
<b>CONTACT- MISSION PERIOD</b>  First Spanish/Mission British Period Second Spanish American Territorial Statehood	<b>AD 1500+</b>  <b>1565 - 1763</b> <b>1763 - 1783</b> <b>1784 – 1821</b> <b>1821 – 1845</b> <b>1845 - present</b>

**Table 1:** Historical Periods of St. Augustine (prehistory adapted from Milanich 1994)

Although this is probably an accurate assessment for the earliest occupations,<sup>2</sup> recent work is challenging this conclusion for later occupations in the region (Russo 1992). Surveys and excavations along the coastal environments of Northeast Florida indicate that groups occupied or visited the region on a regular basis toward the end of the preceramic era (ca. 4,000 to 2,000 B.C.). These occupations are identified as the Mount Taylor Period (Milanich 1994:88). Sites dating to this period have been documented in various locations along the coastal environments of Northeast Florida (cf. Russo and Saunders 1999; Newman 1995; Piatek 1994; Russo 1992; Newman and Weisman 1992; Bond 1992), indicating that preceramic groups were occupying the region on a regular basis.

No concrete evidence of a Mount Taylor Period occupation was found in the project area, but its presence is clearly evident in the immediate vicinity. Coontie Island (8SJ13), just southwest of the project area (Figure 6), is known to contain a Mount Taylor component based upon artifacts now in private collections—several of which have been illustrated (Wheeler, Newman, and McGee 2001; Smith 1985). According to Pierre Thompson, whose family has been a co-owner of the property since the 1930s, numerous artifacts have been recovered along the shoreline on the Intracoastal Waterway side of the island. The uniqueness of many of the artifacts (e.g., the abundant bannerstones and ground stone beads) suggests that the island might have been utilized as a burial ground during this period (Christine Newman, personal communication 2001). Unfortunately, no systematic archaeological data-recovery project has yet been implemented at Coontie Island. The only documentation currently available is in the form of photographic archives at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C., and the George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida, Gainesville.

In addition to Coontie Island, preceramic artifacts have been recovered from Fish Island Creek and an unnamed island south of Coontie Island by amateur archaeologists, according to Michael Tarleton. (Tarleton is an amateur archaeologist interested in artifacts from the Archaic periods of Northeast Florida.) In particular is the undocumented site south of Coontie Island,

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<sup>2</sup> The only evidence to date that has been recovered for earlier occupations in the region have come in the form of isolated projectile point finds. The PaleoIndian occupation is represented by a Simpson spear or knife point found in St. Augustine, within geologic deposits of Pleistocene origin (Gualtieri 1995a, 1995b). Isolated projectile points representing early Archaic occupations have been found in southern St. Johns County along the Intracoastal.

where a wide assortment of lithic debitage and tools can be found eroding out of the shoreline on the Intracoastal Waterway side of the island. This island is approximately one mile south of Fish Island. Some of the projectile and/or knife points collected from the unnamed island include Kirk Serrated, Arredondo, and Newnan. Artifacts found along the shoreline of Fish Island Creek include Newnan and other Archaic stemmed-variety projectile points.

The fact that these three late preceramic (i.e., Mount Taylor Period) locales are found eroding from the shoreline of islands bordering the Intracoastal Waterway indicates that these early archaeological remains actually might be buried within marsh deposits. Jerald T. Milanich has posited a similar statement for the Late Archaic period in general for Northeast Florida, which also includes the subsequent Orange Period:

with sea levels about five feet higher [now] than during the late Archaic period, many late Archaic sites are probably inundated or buried under salt marshes... The ones left for modern archaeologists to observe are either middens originally deposited on higher ground... or middens that have been surrounded by the encroaching salt marsh as it moves inland with the rising sea (Milanich 1994:90).

It is likely that these three preceramic locales were geared toward the exploitation of coastal estuarine resources given that the environment was approaching more-or-less modern conditions (Miller 1998:70). Whether or not the occupation was seasonal or permanent is debatable. Some researchers hold that the period's settlement-subsistence strategies followed seasonal patterns in the exploitation of resources (Miller 1998), whereas others contend that some areas might have been occupied on a year-round (permanent) basis (Russo 1992). The fact that Coontie Island (8SJ13) might have been the site of a preceramic burial ground would indicate some type of permanency in the area.

The subsequent Orange Period (ca. 2,000 B.C. to 500 B.C.) is a continuation of Late Archaic settlement and subsistence patterns initiated during the Mount Taylor Period (Milanich 1994:88). The difference between the two periods is in the adoption and development of Fiber-Tempered Orange ceramics. These ceramics are distinctive in that vegetal fibers are used as a tempering agent (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:152). The small mollusk coquina (*Donax variabilis*) is another hallmark of the Orange Period (Goggin 1998:45). Recent excavations have

shown coquina to be present at preceramic Late Archaic sites (Russo 1992; Bond 1992), which further indicates continuity between the two periods.

Archaeological sites associated with the Orange Period are common in Northeast Florida, especially in wetland environments (Miller 1998). According to Milanich:

Orange-period sites will be found almost everywhere archaeologists look in east Florida, especially in coastal settings or on the St. Johns or Oklawaha rivers. The largest sites are located where wetland resources are most productive (Milanich 1994:89).

Several Orange Period sites have been recorded within a 15-mile radius of the project area, including the Radio Road Site (Halbirt 1993), Crescent Beach (Bond 1992), and Summer Haven (Bellomo 1995). Coontie Island also is known to contain some Orange Period deposits (Christine Newman, personal communication 2001). In addition to sites, numerous isolated occurrences and/or small, dispersed scatters of Fiber-Tempered Orange ware have been recorded in the St. Augustine area (cf. Halbirt 1996). These occurrences are considered to be associated with resource procurement areas that occur along the tidal marsh in between sites.

In Northeast Florida, the period following the Orange Period is marked by a proliferation of archaeological sites (Miller 1998) and of different styles of pottery, which “make it easier for [archaeologists] to recognize and study specific regional cultures” (Milanich 1994:107). Although some of these regional cultures represent an evolutionary continuation of earlier Archaic populations, others might be a response to migrations and/or invasions from other locales in the Southeast. Three basic regional variants, or traditions, are represented in Northeast Florida from 500 B.C. to A.D. 750 (Madry, Smith, and Whitehill 2001): St. Johns I, Deptford, and Swift Creek. A distinctive pottery type(s) defines each, although there are other distinguishing characteristics (Milanich 1994). All three were primarily adapted to a coastal-riverine settlement-subsistence strategy in Northeast Florida and there is overlap in the distribution of pottery styles, which indicates that the three variants interacted.

The St. Johns tradition is the primary regional variation in the St. Augustine area, especially along the Intracoastal where numerous sites exist. Four of these sites occur along the

west banks of the Matanzas River—across from Fish Island—and five have been recorded in the Florida Master Site File (8SJ3161, 8SJ3162, 8SJ3164, 8SJ3298, and 8SJ3299). A fourth site (BDAC 01-2050) recently has been discovered by the City on property owned by Target Enterprises.

The St. Johns tradition is primarily defined by its pottery. The pottery has a chalky texture, which is created by the addition of sponge spicules to the paste. The chronology of this tradition is lengthy, essentially extending from 500 B.C. to A.D. 1565, and can be divided into several phases based on variations in the surface treatment of the pottery as well as the presence of imported wares (Milanich 1994:247). The St. Johns culture was not insular, but participated in far-flung exchange networks that brought exotic raw materials and finished products into the region (Madry, Smith, and Whitehall 2001:16). The importance of long-distance trade became more pronounced as the social and political networks of the St. Johns culture continued to develop. Eventually the indigenous population became organized under the aegis of ranked or hierarchical chiefdoms (Milanich 1994).

Although the St. Johns culture relied heavily on coastal resources, eventually subsistence strategies relied to some degree on horticultural activities. Recent archaeological investigations by the City of St. Augustine Archaeology Program have uncovered ditches with later style varieties of St. Johns period pottery (i.e., check-stamping on the exterior surfaces) that might indicate agricultural activities during this period (Jerome 2000). It is interesting that the Spanish royal *cedulas* of the sixteenth century stipulate that a town(s) be established “in fertile areas with an abundance of fruits and fields, of good land to plant and harvest...and that they should be populated by Indians and natives” (Couch, Garr, and Mundigo 1982).

The last phase of the St. Johns tradition is associated with the indigenous Timucua who were living in what became St. Augustine when the Spanish arrived in 1565 (Deagan 1978). Archaeological investigations at The Fountain of Youth Site (8SJ31) and within the original downtown site of St. Augustine illustrate the interaction that occurred between indigenous Timucua and Spanish colonizers (Deagan 1985, Deagan 1992; Chaney and Deagan 1989). Based on historical Spanish documents, Kathleen Deagan (1979) has created an invaluable

ethnohistory of the Timucua Indians prior to their decimation by Spanish cultural practices and infectious diseases from Europe and Africa.

### **Historical Era**

Permanent European settlement in the area came with the establishment of San Augustín by Pedro Menéndez de Avilés on September 8, 1565 (Lyon 1976). The town's present location was settled in 1572—the locale of the sixteenth-century component extended from the plaza south to Bridge Street and from the bayfront to St. George Street (Deagan 1981b; Halbirt 1999). The Spanish maintained control of the town until 1763, when it and La Florida were relinquished to England at the end of the Seven Years' War (also known as the French and Indian War 1756-1762) and with the signing of the First Treaty of Paris. This marked the end of what historians call the First Spanish Period (1565-1763). The British occupation of East Florida was next. The British Period in St. Augustine lasted twenty years (1763-1783) and saw a large influx of people during the American War of Independence. As a result of the American Revolution and the Second Treaty of Paris, the Spanish regained control of Florida; however the Florida of their ancestors was never the same. The colony eventually became an American Territory in 1821, marking the end of the town's colonial era. St. Augustine grew as a resort destination, especially after the arrival of oil magnate Henry Flagler in the 1880s. Flagler established the Florida East Coast Railway and developed a complex of magnificent hotels. A number of sources exist that recount the founding and history of St. Augustine, including general syntheses by Deagan (1981, 1983).

### **Development of Fish Island**

Throughout the First Spanish Period, much of Fish Island and Anastasia Island were undeveloped for the most part (Halbirt 1993c). The Spanish government had opened coquina-stone quarry pits on Anastasia Island in the late 1600s to supply the stone necessary to construct Castillo de San Marcos (Arana and Manucy 1977). The representation of quarrying activity is recorded in the Florida Master Site File (8SJ69 and 8SJ3234). When that project was completed in 1695, the quarry pits supplied building material for residences, which became increasingly

popular after the devastating siege of the city by Governor James Moore of Carolina in 1702 (Deagan 1983; Manucy 1962). The few buildings that existed on the island either were associated with quarrying activities, mission communities, or were lookouts to warn residents of St. Augustine of approaching vessels.

It was not until the British took control of Florida that people were actively encouraged to seek their fortune through agricultural activities, especially in the form of a plantation economy. To encourage settlement in newly acquired East Florida, the British government provided numerous land grants for horticultural activities.<sup>3</sup> To provide labor for these growing plantations, both indentured servants and African-American slaves were brought to work in the fields and in the homes. The policy enacted by the British carried over into the subsequent Second Spanish (1784-1821) and American Territorial (1821-1845) periods. This economic way of life culminated and collapsed in the 1830s with the Second Seminole War (1835-1842). At that time, most of the plantations in Northeast Florida were abandoned and/or destroyed.

Fish Island takes its name from Jesse Fish, a unique and possibly nefarious character in St. Augustine's history. He was of English decent and moved from New York to St. Augustine in 1730, around the age of 10 or 12. Fish was sent at a young age by the William Walton Company to learn the Spanish language and customs, which were to be used to establish and maintain trade relations between the company and the colony (Gold 1971). He assimilated into the Spanish culture and considered St. Augustine his home until his death in 1790. There is some evidence to indicate that Fish also was active in the trade of African slaves during the First Spanish Period (Landers 1999:Appendix 9).

At the end of the First Spanish Period when the Spanish departed, Jesse Fish laid claim to an old Spanish estate, thus acquiring a large portion of Anastasia Island. His land claim involved 10,000 acres, which included Fish Island. Here, he established his home and world-famous plantation known as "El Vergel," or The Garden (Figure 7). Although Fish's plantation endeavors involved grazing cattle and raising a variety of crops, he was most famous for his

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<sup>3</sup> During the British Period (1764-1784) Florida was divided into two separate entities, East Florida and West Florida, each with its own administrative government.

oranges. He became one of the first citrus exporters in what is now the United States, including a spirituous beverage called “orange shrub” (Tanner 1989:35). An inventory of his property after his death indicates that in addition to citrus he grew figs, pomegranates, peaches, and lime trees and had a fairly extensive cattle herd that grazed throughout Anastasia Island. At one point, at least seventeen slaves worked the plantation (Steinbach 1971) although this number was probably higher.

Fish married Sarah Warner in 1768, after which he became a recluse and retired to his island due to his young wife’s extravagant behavior (Kingston 1987). He left his wife’s relatives in charge of plantation affairs, which through poor management left him in debt and his plantation in a state of deterioration. Before his death, he stated his plantation home had fallen into such a state of decline that it did not afford him “...the protection necessary against inclemencies of the weather” (Steinbach 1971:4).

After Fish’s death, the Spanish government took control of plantation, because of the questionable means by which he acquired the estate (Gold 1971). His son, Jesse Fish Jr., eventually was able to repurchase a portion of the property and after some appeals was able to reclaim all of the original 10,000-acre estate. The estate excluded the King’s coquina-stone quarries and the watchtower, both of which had been “reserved back” in the First Spanish Period (Williams 1962:44). Jesse Fish, Jr. was found dead in the summer of 1812. According to testamentary proceedings, he had died with his horse during a violent storm during which it appeared that “he had tried to avert by an umbrella with large brass mountings” (Kingston 1987:79). Sarah Fish, who had left St. Augustine years earlier, was awarded the estate after her son’s death and retained ownership of the property until her death in 1824. Sarah resided on the property with her granddaughters (Jessica Rosalia Perpall and Susannah Perpall) and Clarissa Fish, a West Indian slave who was the mistress of Jesse Fish, Jr., and Clarissa’s seven children, all of whom Sarah “seems to have accepted” (Kingston 1987:79).



**Figure 7:** The Des Barres Map of 1780 of Fish Island and Adjacent Land  
(Courtesy of the St. Augustine Historical Society)

The property was transferred to Jessica Perpall, Sarah's lone-surviving granddaughter from her daughter Phoebe. In 1826, Jessica married Charles Furman of South Carolina. She gave birth to a son in January 1827, and died of consumption eight months later. Unfortunately, property ownership at this point becomes confusing given that Jessica did not pursue the old Spanish land-grant claim with the Board of Commissioners (Kingston 1987:82).

Although the ownership of the property becomes muddled, residence continued on the old estate, possibly by Clarissa and some of her descendants.<sup>4</sup> In 1837, John Lee Williams in describing Anastasia Island, noted that:

It was granted to Jesse Fish by the Spanish Government, except the Kings quarries and the site of the Tower [watchtower]. His heirs are still in possession. It contains a few hundred acres of excellent land, a part of which is improved in a fine orange grove (Williams 1962:44).

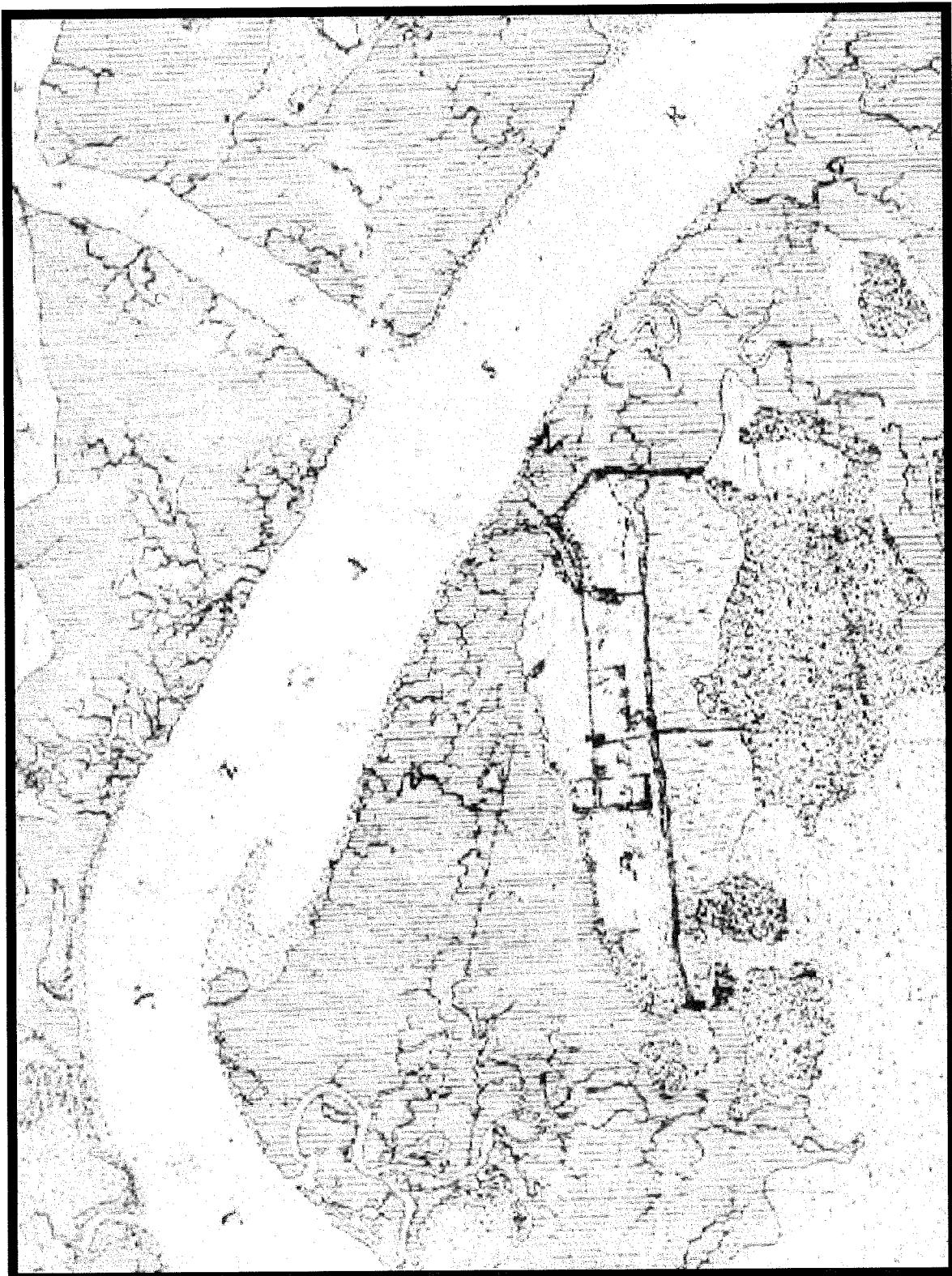
What became of the plantation and its occupants after Sarah's death is presently unknown. The F. W. Dorr Map of 1860 shows the presence of structures of varying sizes and enclosures that might have fenced agricultural areas, suggesting that the plantation was still functioning (Figure 8). Some of these fenced locations might have represented the boundary of old orange groves, the trees of which were still producing into the 1870s. The map also is the first one that indicates a possible channel that extends from a wharf to the main house complex.

After the American Civil War, Fish Island became a popular place for tourist outings. One such event resulted in Henry J. Morton's 1867 sketch of the main house (Figure 9), of which his daughter Alice commented:

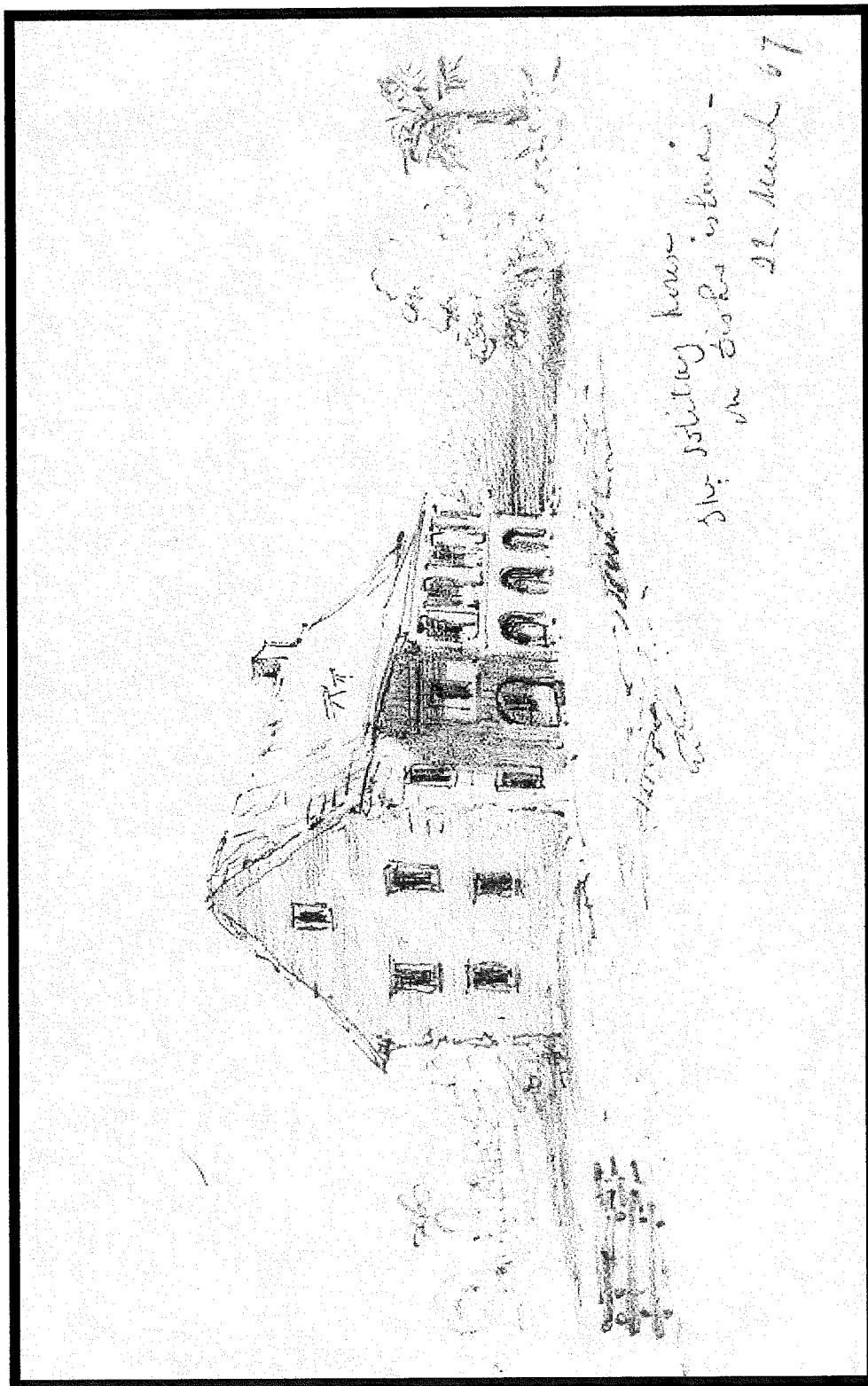
[it] had once been a fine residence, was built of stone with a stone terrace, a balcony supported on arches across the front, but there was not a pane of glass nor a window shutter nor a sash in the whole building. The gaunt black open casements stared at us as we approached like eye sockets of a skull (Graham 1996:40).

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<sup>4</sup> In her will, Sarah Fish deeded to Clarissa Fish and her seven children (Sophia, John, Elizabeth, Mary, Diana, Harriet, and Phoebe) property along St. Francis Street and 500 acres at Matanzas on land granted to her husband and son (St. Augustine Historical Society Manuscript Collection).



**Figure 8:** The F.W. Dorr Map of 1860 of Fish Island and Vicinity  
(Courtesy of the St. Augustine Historical Society)



**Figure 9:** Henry J. Morton Sketch of the "Solitary House" on Fish Island (Graham 1996)

Another visitor to the plantation was Constance F. Woolson. Writing for the *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, she made the following observations of the plantation as part of an article that popularized the historical ambiance, sites, and people of St. Augustine:

It seems to be a large plantation run to waste; symmetrical field surrounded by high hedges of the sour orange, loaded with its fruit; old furrows still visible in the never-freezing ground; every where traces of careful labor and cultivation, which had made the sandy soil blossom as the rose. In the centre of a broad lawn were the ruins of a mansion, the white chimney alone standing, like a monument to the past. Beyond, a path led down to the circle of trees with even, dense foliage; there in the centre, shut out from the glare of the sunshine, alone in the greenery, stood a solitary tomb, massive and dark, without date or inscription save what the little fingers of the lichen had written (Woolson 1874:17).

Woolson also noted that a small family, which she identified as Arcadian descent, lived on the island and that a member of her party noted that this family “enjoyed life as nature intended.”

Near the ruins of the mansion we found the Arcadians, a young man with his wife and child, living in a small out-building which might have been a cow-house. It was not more than ten feet square, the roof had fallen in, and was replaced by a rude thatch of palmetto leaves; there was no window of any kind, no floor save the sand, and for a door only an old coverlet hung up and tied back like a curtain. Within we could see a low settle-bed with some ragged coverings, a stool, powder shot, and fishing tackle hung up on one side, and an old calico dress on the other; without was a table under a tree, a cupboard hung on the outside of the house containing a few dishes, and the ashes of the family fire near at hand. Two thin dogs and a forlorn calf... completed the stock of this model farm... The woman came to meet us with her brown baby, and the young husband took his gun and went out to find his super—partridge from the wood possibly (Woolson 1874:19)

Could the family identified as being “Arcadians” be descendants of Jesse Fish, Jr., and Clarissa? Or were they squatters who had moved to the island after its abandonment? Additional historical research could address these questions.

In the twentieth century, the property was used for various activities, including the production of moonshine during the Prohibition Era (Kixmiller 1973, Halbirt 1993c), the trash

disposal, a convenient camp and party site for vagrants and students, and a hunting area. As late as the 1950s, portions of the house, the tomb, and blockhouse were still standing; however, by the 1990s, most of these structures had been subject to decay and vandalism. Today all that is visible from the once-flourishing plantation are scattered coquina stone and tabby.

## **RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY**

The remnants of Jesse Fish's plantation home of El Vergel are but a mere shadow of their former glory, but what lies buried comprises a significant and sensitive archaeological resource. The history and importance of these archaeological remains was recognized when the property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (Steinbach 1971). Information pertinent to the plantation, as well as the archaeological deposits, over which the plantation site was built, will substantially increase our understanding of the region's unique cultural heritage. As such, the City of St. Augustine, through its archaeology division, initiated a data-recovery program focused on gathering information on the archaeological deposits present in the project area. The objective was to develop a preliminary understanding of these deposits, which can then be used to develop a more comprehensive data-recovery program. To date, no systematic archaeological investigation has been implemented at Fish Island.

The City project involved two phases of investigation: a systematic survey of the project area followed by limited test excavations in selected locations. The survey provided information on the types of archaeological deposits present, as well as the boundaries and integrity of these deposits. Limited test excavations provided information about the nature of buried archaeological deposits (i.e., depth and composition) and increased the number of artifactual remains (e.g., potsherds and animal bone). Both sources not only provide information relative to the extent and nature of the archaeological deposits present on the property, but they are necessary to reconstruct past lifeways and chronological phases of occupation. The next sections present the methodologies used for each phase.

### **Survey Procedures**

The survey was established using a 25-meter grid system, with the grid oriented to magnetic north. A datum was selected and assigned an arbitrary number of 1000 North / 1000 East (Figure 10). This point was placed just north of the main house foundations, within an area

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set aside by the present co-owners of the property as a conservation easement zone.<sup>5</sup> A rebar marked the location of the main datum. The grid was established by means of a transit and compass, with a series of wooden stakes or flag markers placed every 25 meters to designate the location of each point. North/East numbers were assigned to each point to indicate its location relative to the main datum. To aid in establishing the grid locations, most transect lines were cleared of dense vegetation, using a tractor. The accuracy of this method ensures horizontal integrity and is necessary for future archeological investigations.

The first phase involved shovel test holes in which 50-cm square holes, approximately 1-meter deep, were dug. The lack of a field crew necessitated a modification of this research method. We subsequently used a 1-foot diameter tractor auger bit to excavate the test holes. Because we had already obtained an understanding of the soil deposits in the project area, we were willing to sacrifice some stratigraphic information to expedite the survey. All test holes in close proximity of historical structures were excavated by hand to control the excavation and to prevent disturbance of possible subsurface features.

The information retrieved from each test hole was recorded on a standard shovel test survey form. All soil was screened through one-quarter-inch hardware cloth; artifacts recovered were placed in a bag with a provenience number that corresponded to the coordinates of the test grid. The stratigraphy was recorded according to depth below ground surface as well as by soil color and texture. The quantity of shell present also was recorded to define areas that contained midden deposits and was based on a subjective evaluation of relative density. The categories used for shell quantity: absent, trace, small, medium, and abundant.

During the course of shovel and/or auger testing, the property was thoroughly inspected for surface artifacts and shell deposits. Existing ruins were visually inspected and plotted on a map by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS). During the survey, the property owners and local residents shared their knowledge of the project area.

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<sup>5</sup> Three areas were designated as conservation easement areas and are protected from construction: the area of the main house (2.1 acres), the area around the wharf, and a 1.2-acre-parcel north of State Route 312 that contains the remains of tabby walls and rubble piles. According to one of the current co-owners, all three locations will become green spaces by means of caveats to the sale contract (Pierre Thompson, personal communication 2000).

## **Limited Test Excavations**

Once the results of the systematic survey were evaluated, locations were subjectively selected for further test excavation. Locations are selected based on four criteria: 1) type and density of artifacts, 2) relative quantity of shell debris, 3) presence of architectural features, and 4) historical maps that illustrated the location of potentially significant locations (e.g., the location of slave quarters and possible outbuildings). This phase of the investigation began shortly before the summer of 2001; however, after a few weeks the investigation was discontinued due to excessive environmental conditions and lack of volunteer personnel. Elderly volunteers essentially staff the City's program, and it was impossible to lure them to the site under adverse circumstances. As a result, nine test units were excavated; although it should be stated that additional work still remains to be completed.

Each test unit was excavated following standard City procedures (Halbirt 1992). The size of test units used to investigate architectural remains was based on the size of the feature. Units in general culture midden locations measured 2 meters by 1 meter. Each test units was designated by the corresponding grid coordinate of the southwest corner of the unit. Each unit was excavated until no further archaeological deposits were encountered, which generally correlated to fine-grained, yellow-gold sand. When possible, each unit was excavated by natural stratigraphy, as defined by differences in soil color and texture as well as the density and condition of shell debris. If no differences were distinguished, then arbitrary 10-cm levels were used. Any distinct and definable soil stains were considered to be archaeological features.

## PRELIMINARY PROJECT RESULTS

As of this writing, staff of the City of St. Augustine Archaeology Program has completed a systematic survey of the project area for a total of 217 shovel or auger holes and has excavated 9 test units. This section presents the results of each of the two phases, beginning first with the systematic survey. Observations made of the surface features of the historical plantation are considered as part of the survey results.

### Systematic Survey

For ease of explanation, the property area is divided up into three parcels (Figure 1). Parcel 1 consists of that portion of Fish Island south of S.R. 312, while Parcels 2 and 3 lie north of road: Parcel 2 is the northern tip of Fish Island and Parcel 3 is the 12 acre section of land that is part of Anastasia Island. Parcel 1 was the main focus of the survey because most of the plantation remains are found in this area. The construction of State Road 312 and the associated Mickler O'Connell Bridge, which spans the Matanzas River, crosses over the northern end of the Fish Island. This northern tip makes up Parcel 2. Parcel 3 is an area of high ground that is not located on Fish Island, but is situated instead on Anastasia Island that had been historically separated from Fish Island by marsh. Of the 217 pits excavated, 159 were in Parcel 1 and 58 were in Parcel 3. None were excavated in Parcel 2 given that the area was covered in several feet of dredge spoil piles.

Of the 217 pits excavated during the survey, 75 (34.6%) yielded positive results in the presence of artifactual remains and 55 (25.3%) yielded moderate to high quantities of shell. Recovered artifacts that can be used for dating purposes included fiber-tempered Orange ware, St. Johns plain and check-stamped varieties, sand-tempered Aboriginal ware, Pearlware varieties (i.e., plain, hand-painted, transfer print, and Annularware), Creamware, pipe stems, and bottle glass. The survey results are divided according to indigenous native American (prehistoric) and historic plantation categories in order to understand the distribution of these remains and how they can be used in defining discrete temporal occupations.

## Indigenous Native American

Of the 217 test pits excavated only six pits had positive results for late Archaic material (Figure 11): five pits contained fiber-tempered Orange ware and one pit contained two chert flakes that may represent the remnants of flint knapping activity. These positive tests were located south of S.R. 312 on Fish Island. No late archaic material was located in Parcel 3. None of these positive tests were clustered to indicate a definite site. Rather, the material found represents isolated finds and indicates sporadic use of the area during the late Archaic period. If a site exists, it is possibly submerged beneath the marsh.

Native American deposits dating to the St. Johns Period were found clustered in three locations in the project area (Figure 12). These sites are characterized by the presence of aboriginal pottery (i.e., St. Johns plain or checked stamped or sand-tempered plain) and a moderate to abundant quantity of primarily oyster shell (Figure 13) in a dark organic sand matrix. Animal bone was encounter in this midden deposit; however, whether it associates with the prehistoric occupation of the area or with subsequent historic plantation activities could not be discerned during the survey. For all three sites, the prehistoric occupation occurred on an elevate area along the Intracoastal Waterway.

The largest prehistoric St. Johns period site measures roughly 10.5 acres. It was found toward the center of Fish Island where 48 test pits yielded positive results for either St. Johns or sand-tempered pottery. Within this cluster, 42 pits contained moderate to abundant shell; although, as will be discussed later,

The other two sites found were substantially smaller measuring roughly 1.5 acres in size. One of these sites occurs near the plantation's wharf, just south of the 312 bridge. It was defined by the occurrence of diminutive St. Johns potsherds in two of the shovel pits and a moderate to abundant shell in 6 shovel pits. This small site may be part of the Troll Site (Stokes 1996), situated a short distance to the northwest. The other site, found in Parcel 3, was defined by the presence of St. Johns pottery in four of the shovel pits (Figure 12) as well as a cluster of 10 pits that contained medium to abundant shell (Figure 13).

Site location information redacted per Ch. 267.135, *Florida Statues*.

## Historical

The most significant archaeological deposits recognized on the property are those relating to the plantation activity of Jesse Fish. The majority of these deposits are concentrated in the center of Parcel 1, of which 25 shovel pits were positive for historical archaeological remains (Figure 14). This area corresponds to structures documented on historical maps (e.g., the main house, well, and blockhouse) as well as the wharf and the area north of the main house that may represent slave quarters. This complex of features encompasses approximately five acres, which is heavily overgrown with trees and shrubs.

Of the four plantation structures of which ruins are still present, the most visible is the blockhouse (Figure 15). It lies on the eastern edge of the property at the historic road entrance to the island. At this time little is known about the structure or when it was built, although it is considered to date from the Second Spanish Period onwards. Its remains consist of toppled walls made from large cut coquina stone blocks that were cemented together by tabby. Some of the blocks are still covered in plaster. The only positive test pit excavated near the structure yielded one English Jackfield ceramic.

Just west of the blockhouse, the land rises forming a north-south oriented ridge (Figure 3). Atop this ridge an abundance of shell is observed on the ground, which is considered to be associated with the large prehistoric St. Johns Period shell midden. It is on this rise that the foundations to the once magnificent two-story coquina stone house of Jesse Fish can be seen (Figure 16). At least three walls can be discerned from the ruins. Unfortunately, some of the coquina stones blocks were recently removed and used in the construction of a campfire, which itself was dismantled and the blocks carted away. Positive shovel tests around the main house yielded cut nails, bottle glass, Pearlware, pipe stems, brick and other miscellaneous artifact fragments. One shovel pit (975 N/1000 E) placed just south of the extant house foundation produced over 184 artifacts.

One hundred fifty feet southwest of the main house are the remains of a well. The well has been subject to looting, which has partially exposed three walls of the coquina stone shaft



**Figure 15:** Second Spanish Period Block House



**Figure 16:** Remains of the Foundations to the Main House

(Figure 17). The shaft is essentially square measuring approximately 2.5 ft per side, which is typical for most domestic wells in colonial St. Augustine. Two shovel tests east of the well produced Delft, nail fragments, and Olive Green Bottle Glass.

As for Fish's tomb, located approximately 230 feet south of the main house, legend has it that the tomb was subject to vandalism by people looking for money, which is unlikely given that Fish died in debt (Kingston 1987). Except for some fragments of coquina stone within a shallow depression, nothing is left of tomb and the disposition of Jesse Fish's remains is unknown.<sup>6</sup> Shovel pits around the tomb produced a plethora of prehistoric native American artifacts and shell deposits, however, plantation era material was dispersed and consisted of occasional nail fragments, unidentifiable iron fragments, and bottle glass fragments. Figure 14 indicates that the tomb is toward the southern edge of the historic scatter. As in the case of the main house, the tomb was situated toward the crest of the north-south oriented ridge.

Historical deposits, both in the form of positive shovel tests and surface scatter, were found between 100 to 300 feet north of the main house. This area corresponds to a cluster of small buildings on the Dorr Map of 1860 (Figure 8), which may have been the slave quarters and/or other associated outbuildings. The scattered remnants of coquina stone blocks observed on the ground surface may represent the foundations to these structures. One characteristic of this location that differs from other areas on the property is the plethora of oyster and clam shells, which appear to occur only on the ground surface. This is unlike the prehistoric middens that had some depth. Historical artifacts were recovered from a few test locations and include Pearlware, Whiteware, coarse earthenware, and olive-green glass. Unfortunately, this area was used in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century as a dumping ground for residents living in the St. Augustine area and, therefore, distinguishing modern and historic items may be difficult for some artifacts (e.g., metal).

Approximately 100 west of the possible slave quarter area and 150 feet northwest of the main house is a channel that leads out into the marsh and connects with the wharf (Figure 18).

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<sup>6</sup> In addition to Fish's remains, the possibility exists for slave burials on the island, but their location is unmarked and unknown at this time. At least 17 slaves lived at the plantation and it is probable that there was some mortality.



**Figure 17:** Coquina-Lined Well



**Figure 18:** Possible Historic Channel Cut from Main House to Wharf

While shovel tests around this feature did not produce any positive results for historical material, the feature may be a component of Fish's commercial enterprises involved in the transporting of goods and people up to the plantation house. A possible channel is illustrated on the Dorr Map of 1860, although the topographic map produced for A.P. Davis in 1925 (Figure 3) is ambiguous as to the presence of a channel. The Davis map does indicate two parallel dotted lines in the general area of the channel, however.

The last component within this concentration of historic plantation features is the wharf and a possible man-made boat basin. Both are situated more than 1000 feet north (of the main house) in a small alcove of the marsh. The wharf is comprised of two parallel walls of coquina stone that are in excess of 30 feet in length and spaced approximately 10 feet apart (Figure 19). A shovel test placed adjacent to one of the walls indicate that they are composed of at least three courses of coquina block and might have preserved wooden structural supports at the base of the stones. The possible boat basin, which incorporated elements of the natural topography, was constructed to the east of the wharf for shallow drafted vessels. Both the wharf and probable boat basin enabled goods and people to be transported between the plantation and St. Augustine. This location also was the point of entry for pirates who entered the plantation estate on January 24, 1785. According to Thomas Bell, he, along with three other men, rowed to the landing at the Fish estate. While he was posted as a sentry, the other three men broke into the house. Soon they "came dashing back with a bed sheet full of booty, pursued by servants firing muskets" (Tanner 1989:59). While the others escaped capture, Bell was mortally wounded and taken to town where he readily admitted his association with a pirate band before dying two hours later.

In addition to the concentration of historic deposits found toward the center of parcel 1, two isolated features were discovered at the southern tip of Fish Island, which were subsequently excavated (see below). One of the features turned out to have been a tomb, which is almost 1,500 feet south (546.5N/1124E) of the main house. It is a rectangular feature (approximately 8 feet by 5 feet) lined with cut coquina stone. Shovel pits around this feature did not produce any historic material, although some prehistoric late Archaic fiber-tempered Orange ware was found. The second feature is a small pile of coquina stone about half a meter in width that turned out to



**Figure 19:** East Wall of the Wharf



**Figure 20:** Remnants of a Tabby Wall Located in Parcel 3

be related to 20<sup>th</sup> century activities on the island. The coquina rubble was concentrated in a four-foot diameter area. This feature is approximately 700 feet south (768N/1108E) of the main house. Neither of these features is indicated on any of the historical maps.

During the course of surveying parcel 1, the marsh environment was inspected for the presence of cultural resources. The only feature observed in the marsh was the remains of a hull to a small boat. According to Marianne Franklin, Maritime Archaeologist, the boat could date as early as the nineteenth century based on the type of iron fasteners used in construction. Other historic cultural remains that could exist in the marsh include: 1) submerged vessels in and around the wharf and possible boat basin that were part of the maritime activity associated with the plantation and 2) irrigation dikes at the southern end of the island that are inferred from the Dorr Map of 1860 and aerial photos.

Historical deposits also were found in parcel 3, north of State Route 312. These deposits were approximately 1900 feet northeast of the main house to Fish's plantation. This area had been separated from Fish Island by marsh environment until after 1925 when the island was connected to Anastasia Island by the deposition of dredge fill. Surface evidence consists of several scattered piles of coquina and tabby rubble and a twenty-meter long tabby wall (Figure 20). Rhenish Stoneware, Annularware, brick, and iron pot fragments were also recovered on the surface around the rubble. Subsurface evidence revealed a tabby floor and artifacts of Pearlware, and Whiteware from four shovel pits. These historical deposits occur in an area measuring approximately 1.5 acres.

Although the function of the historical deposits in Parcel 3 is unknown, it is felt that these remains are contemporaneous with the plantation based on artifact types and the Des Barres Map of 1780, which illustrates agricultural fields and possible structures in this area (Figure 7). The length of the tabby wall suggests that it may have functioned as some type of warehouse, though this is purely speculative. The Dorr Map of 1860 is equivocal, although there does appear to be a channel extending from the wharf area to parcel 3 (Figure 8). This area also is devoid of arboreal vegetation on the Dorr Map suggesting that it may have been used for agricultural purposes.

## **Limited Testing Program**

This section represents the findings of limited testing in areas south of the historic main house complex. This area was chosen in response to requests by the current property owners to evaluate the southern half of the island first so that clearance could be recommended. As a consequence, our attention focused on understanding the nature of the large prehistoric midden documented in parcel 1 as well as the excavation of the two isolated historic features discovered at the southern end of Fish Island.

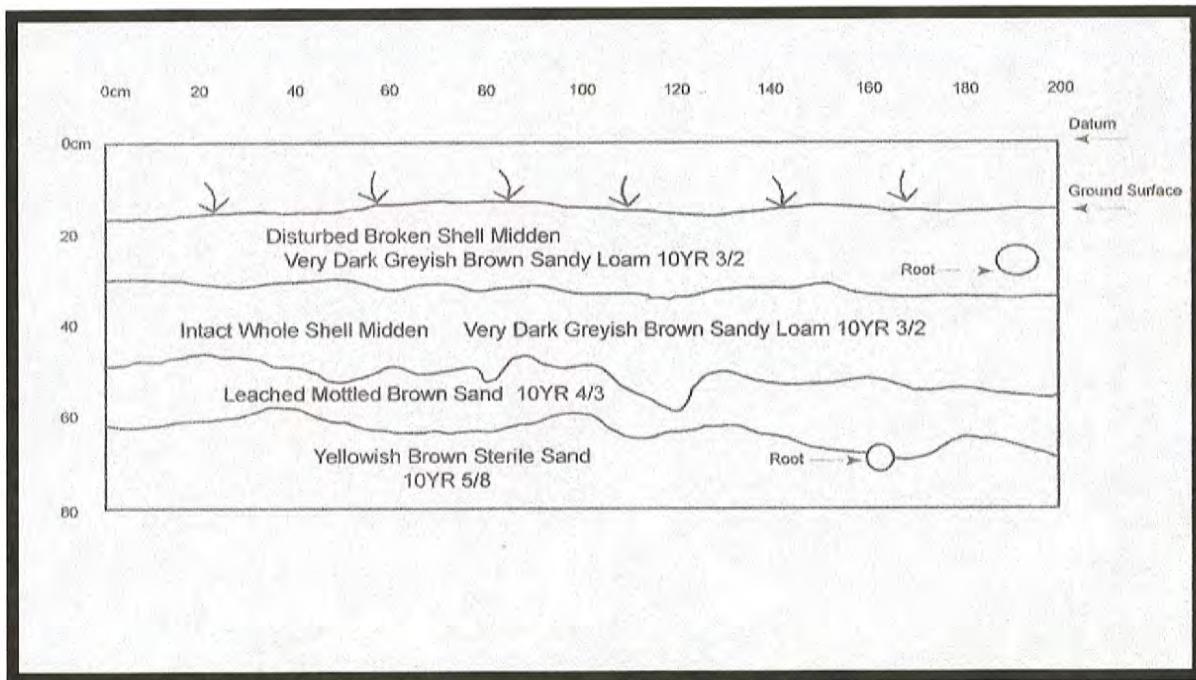
A total of nine test units were judgmentally placed in areas south of the proposed conservation easement zone, as proposed by the present landowners (Figure 21). The units were placed in the following locations: six were used to investigate the prehistoric shell midden deposits, another unit was placed in the only area that yielded positive results for lithic debitage, and two were placed over the isolated historical features at the south end of the island.

### Parcel 1 – Prehistoric Midden

Of the six test units excavated in the prehistoric site documented in parcel 1, five yielded intact shell midden deposits. The sixth test unit (832N/1075E) was found to have been completely disturbed by subsequent activity.

Investigations revealed that the upper portions of the prehistoric midden in all test units have been impacted and disturbed (Figures 22 and 23). This zone is represented by numerous fragments of broken shell within dark brown sand (Munsell 10YR 3/3). Very few complete shell bivalves were recovered from this level. Much of this disturbance probably can be attributed to plantation activities, specifically agricultural endeavors related to the orange groove that was present on the island. Historic artifacts from these upper levels include the following fragments: 3 olive green bottle glass, amber glass, clear glass, 2 porcelain, Creamware, Pearlware, 2 coarse earthenware, 2 iron fragments, and a crushed metal button. The thickness of this disturbance with the midden ranges from 3 to 10 inches (9 to 26 cm).

Site location information redacted per Ch. 267.135, *Florida Statues*.



**Figure 22:** South Profile Drawing of Test Unit 907N/100E



**Figure 23 :** South Profile of Test Unit 907N/100E

Beneath the historic disturbance was a layer of intact midden consisting essentially of unbroken shell within dark brown sand (Munsell 10YR 3/3). Lower intact midden deposits range from 1 to 5 inches (2 to 13 cm) on the edges of the prehistoric site and from 3 to 10 inches (8 to 25 cm) toward the center of the site where the midden is at its thickest and the site elevation is at its highest.

Only three definite features were uncovered beneath the midden deposit: a small post hole (Feature 4), a pit filled with oyster shell (Feature 2), and a trench (Feature 3). Another possible feature is a dark organic stain with burnt oyster shell (Feature 6/7).

Features 2 and 4 were found in Test Unit 874N/1033E. The small circular post hole (Feature 4) measured 8.6 inches in diameter by 5 inches deep (22 cm by 13 cm) and was distinguished as a light mottled brown sand with occasional shell. A large chunk of charcoal was recovered from within this feature. The shell-filled pit (Feature 2) was ovoid in shape and measured 19.7 inches by 17.3 inches by 10.2 inches deep (50 cm by 44 cm by 26 cm). The heavy concentration of oyster was within a mottled brown sandy soil with some charcoal.

Only a segment of the east-west oriented trench was exposed in Test Unit 870N/1050E. The width of the trench varied from 18.9 to 21.3 inches (48 to 54 cm) and its depth was 6.7 inches (17 cm). The trench is characterized by a U-shape profile and the soil was a dark sandy loam with scant shell. Four St. Johns potsherds and a catfish bone were recovered

The dark organic stain with burnt oyster shell (Feature 6/7) was found at the east end of Test Unit 815N/1000E. The partially exposed stain is within a shallow depression that measures approximately 4 inches deep. The soil is a dark brown to black sandy-loam—blocky in nature, with moderate amounts of charcoal and burnt shell. At this time, the nature of this stain is unknown, although it may represent an outdoor roasting location.

A total of 424 prehistoric artifacts were recovered from midden deposits, which does not include traces of daub, charcoal, and iron concretions nor the 13 historic artifacts mentioned above. This assemblage consists of 221 St. Johns potsherds, 25 sand tempered potsherds, 1 San

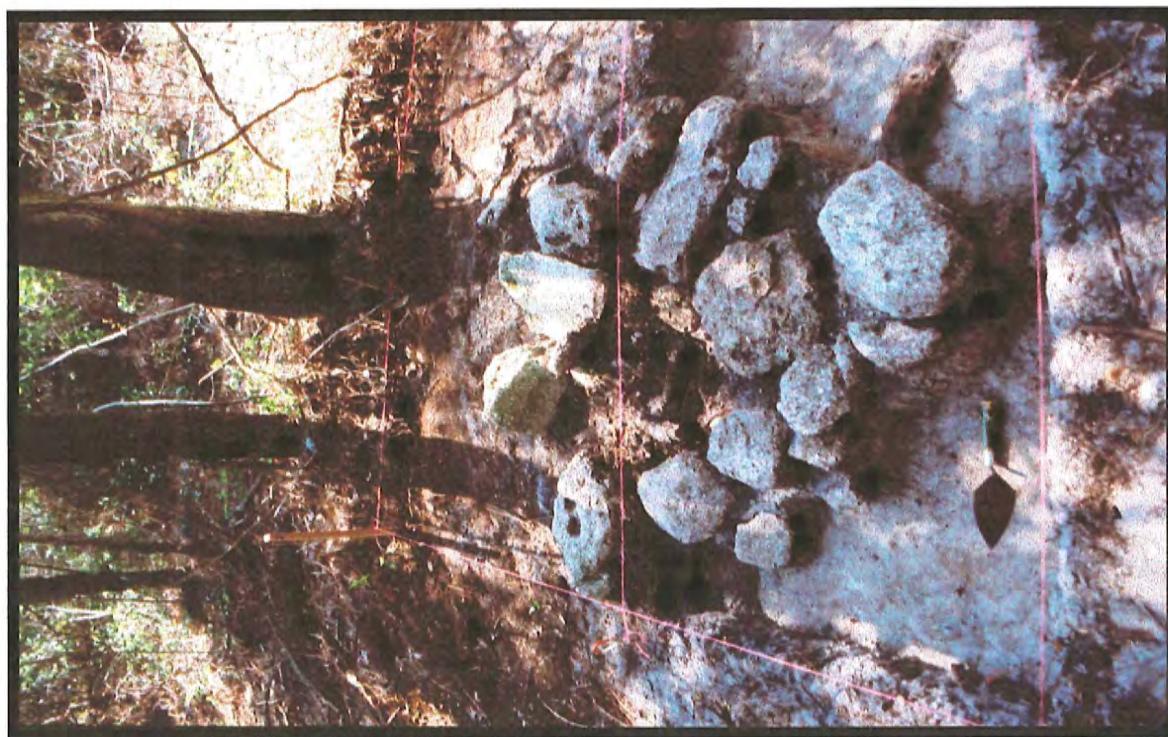
Marcos potsherd, 6 fiber-tempered Orange ware potsherds, and 170 bone fragments (Figure 24). The majority of these artifacts (297 or 68%) were from intact midden deposits, with 212 artifacts coming from two test units (TU 815N/1000E and 907N/1000E). The artifact frequency from intact midden deposits is as follows: 131 St. Johns, 17 sand tempered, 6 fiber-tempered Orange ware, and 143 bone fragments. The six small fragments of Orange ware were found in one test unit (TU 874N/1033E). The fact that the two units with the highest concentration of artifacts lie along the 1000 East line, which also corresponds to the highest point along the island as shown on the A.P. Davis Map of 1925 (Figure 3), would indicate that a correlation exists between elevation and shell densities.

Ninety percent of the faunal remains found in intact midden deposits came from the two test units with the thickest undisturbed deposits (TU 815N/1000E and 907N/1000E). This indicates that the best bone preservation occurred in these areas of deep shell deposits. Faunal remains indicate exploitation of the surrounding resources including consumption of oysters, clams, small mammal, deer, turtle, shark, and fish, including drum, mullet, sheepshead, and catfish.

Besides the six test units placed within the prehistoric midden in parcel 1, another test unit (TU717N/1074E) was placed outside the midden's boundary. This was done in order to investigate not only the nature of subsurface deposits outside the midden, but also the location of an area in which isolated lithic waste flakes were found while surveying the property. Testing revealed shallow soil deposits with scant shell and only two sand-tempered sherds. No additional lithic debitage was uncovered. Since the excavations failed to produce substantial evidence of cultural remains either in the form of shell deposits or artifacts, it is our opinion that this area outside the midden's boundary warrants no further investigation.



**Figure 24:** St. Johns Check-Stamped Ceramic Artifacts from Large Midden



**Figure 25:** Feature 11 in Test Unit 768N/1108E

## Historic Features

In addition to the work conducted on prehistoric remains lying south of the main house complex, two isolated coquina stone features also were investigated. These features were at the south end of Fish Island and consisted of a pile of coquina rubble (Feature 11) and a demolished coquina stone tomb and associated robber pit (Features 12 and 13).

The isolated pile of coquina rubble observed during the survey was found to be a 20<sup>th</sup> century dumpsite (Figure 25). To investigate the nature of the feature, a two-meter square test unit (768N/1108E) was set-up to encompass the rubble pile, with the primary area of rubble concentrated within an area measuring 4.6 feet by 3.2 feet (1.4 m by 1 m). The surface of the test unit was cleaned of leaf litter and then the test unit was bisected to obtain a profile of Feature 11 (Figure 25). After excavation of the western half of Feature 11, it became apparent that the rubble pile represents a dumpsite dating to the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and is unrelated to historic plantation. This assumption is based on the presence of a glass bottle dating to post 1900 (Polak 1994: 19) and cast iron stove parts dating to circa 1900 (Israel 1968). Recognized parts consist of one leg, a 7-in diameter cover, and an over door fragment. Other artifacts recovered are various iron fragments, nails, clear bottle glass fragments, tabby and brick. The eastern half of Feature 11 was left unexcavated, as it was felt that enough was excavated to discern the nature and date of the feature.

A second coquina feature was a demolished tomb (Feature 13) dating to the first half of the nineteenth century. This conclusion is based on historical documents as well as the recovery of a few isolated human bones and coffin nails with fragments of wood still attached. Archaeological investigations at the tomb commenced after the Florida State Archaeologist (Dr. Jim Miller) had been contacted, pursuant to State Statue 872 regarding human burials.

The tomb had been subject to various looting episodes resulting in a deep pit (Feature 12), with spoil piles and coquina rubble on the north, west and south sides of the pit (Figures 26). The looter's pit extends to a depth of approximately 5 feet (1.5 meters) below the present ground surface (Figure 27) and is approximately 8 feet by 5 feet (2.3 m by 1.5 m) in area.



**Figure 26:** Historic Tomb (Feature 13) in Test Unit 546.5N/1124E Prior to Excavation



**Figure 27:** Feature 12 and 13 in Test Unit 546.5N/1124E after Excavation

Removal of surface leaf litter and soil from around the displaced coquina stone and excavation of the looter's pit enabled us to establish the size, configuration and condition of the tomb (Figure 28). The tomb is thought to have been rectangular measuring approximately 5.9 feet by 3 feet (1.8 m by 0.9 m) and was oriented east-west. Based on the remaining historic soil stratigraphy, the tomb construction was primary above ground. The base of the tomb was lined in a layer of crushed shell 1 to 2 inches (2 to 4 cm) thick, which is about 8 inches (20 cm) below the present ground surface. On top of this lens, cut coquina block was placed to form the walls of the tomb. Presently, only one course of stone is still intact along the east wall of the tomb (Figure 28). The rest have either been displaced or removed. It is unknown what the height or roof of the tomb was like. A sketch of Jesse Fish's tomb exists that shows a vaulted structure (Woolson 1874:17), but it is unknown if they were built in similar styles.

The tomb was mentioned in a Harper's New Monthly Magazine article in December, 1874. This was the second of two tombs mentioned in the article. The first tomb had been Jesse Fish's. According to the article, this second tomb was described as being:

farther down the island.... it is even more venerable than the first; a square inclosure of coquina, out which grows an ancient cedar tree which was probably planted, a mere slip after the grave was closed (Woolson 1874:19).

The presence of an "ancient cedar tree" growing out of the tomb suggests two possibilities: 1) that the tomb was looted and damaged prior to the tree's growth or 2) that the tomb was poorly constructed allowing the natural vegetation to take root. It is likely that coffin and its contents had been disturbed and/or robbed by the time Constance Woolson visited the property in 1874. Sometime after this visit, the tomb was severely damaged by looting and whatever burial remains existed (i.e., the coffin and body) were destroyed and dispersed.

The unearthing of human remains and coffin furniture confirmed the notion that the coquina feature is a disturbed tomb. A total of twenty-four bone fragments were found; five of which can be confirmed as human (Figure 29). The others are too fragmentary to be identified, but are most likely human. Identified human remains consist of a phalange, a mandibular condyle fragment, a left parietal skull fragment, and two other unidentifiable skull fragments. In addition to human remains, 10 copper alloy tacks also were uncovered, some incased in wood.

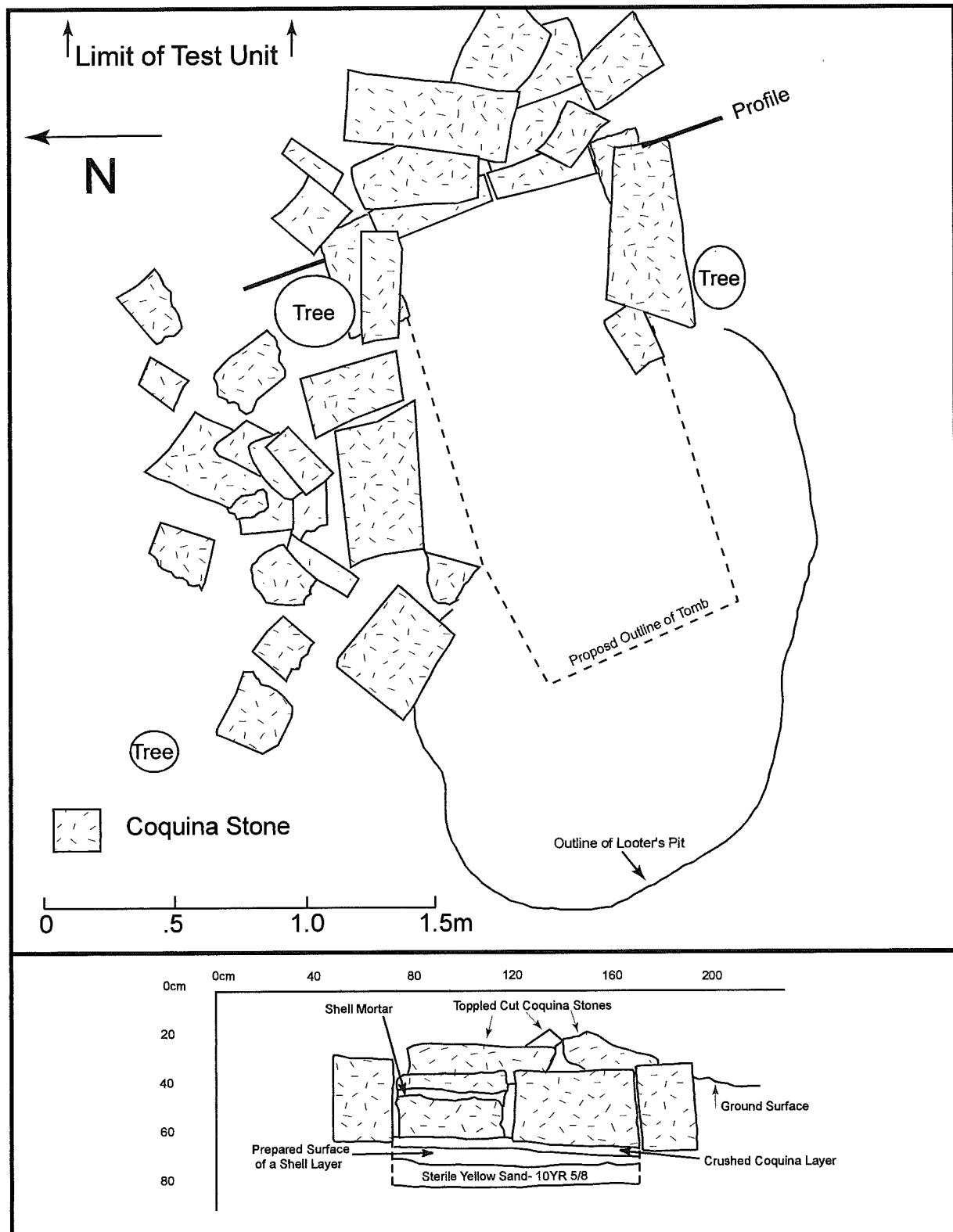


Figure 28: Test Unit 546.5N/1124E Plan Map and Feature 13 East Profile Drawing

**Figure 29: Identifiable Human Remains Excavated from Feature 12 and 13**

Evidence of fiber residue was found on those tacks that have attached wood suggesting that these tacks were used to adhere lining inside the coffin. One iron nail fragment also was located that might be a part of the coffin as well.

Although the identification of the person buried in the tomb is unknown, the probability exists that it is one of Jesse Fish's descendants. Several people are possible candidates: Sara and Jesse Jr. are known to have died on the island, Clarissa—a west Indies slave—had seven children sired by Jesse Fish Jr., and Sara's granddaughter Susannah Perpall died in St. Augustine. Also unknown is why the tomb was placed so far away from any other extant plantation features. Why would they not have been buried near Jesse Fish Senior in a family plot? Could this have been a favorite spot of the person buried in Feature 13? Could this reflect the discourse or shame within the family? Ongoing research will hopefully reveal the identity of and reasons for the person buried in the tomb.

It is the city's recommendation that the structure remain in place as it represents a historical tomb. If the tomb remains must be relocated, then they should be placed near the main house complex along with the remaining coquina stone blocks from Feature 13 in the area set aside by the present land owners as a conservation easement zone.

## Recommendation and Conclusion

It should be reiterated that this report was prepared in response to a request by the present property owners (Thompson Brothers Realty Inc., et al.), even though the archaeological investigation remains incomplete. The project was carried-out by the City of St. Augustine prior to the present property owners selling the land to an undisclosed buyer who plans to develop the area. The present property owners have told the City that the eventual buyer will build residential units, most likely, single-family homes and condominiums; although no plans have yet been submitted to the City that indicate the scope of this development. As a consequence of these conditions, recommendations presented at this time are preliminary and are subject to change.

The recommendations are based not only on the archaeological data recovered and standards set in the City's Archaeological Preservation Ordinance, but also are influenced by statements made by the current property owners regarding the protection of areas containing significant historical features. Referred to as **conservation easement zones**, approximately 2.1 acres have been set aside. Three zones have been identified: a corridor on Fish Island that will protect the main house, well, and block house; an area in Parcel 3 that will protect the a tabby wall and rubble piles; and the area of the wharf and possible boat basin. Although these zones have been identified as protected areas, it is recommended that some work be carried out within these zones. Given that these locations will not be subject to development, however, recommendations for future archaeological efforts are primarily allocated for those areas that lie outside these zones and thus will be subject to adverse impacts.

The annexation of Fish Island and an adjacent parcel into the City of St. Augustine and its proposed development necessitated an archaeological investigation to evaluate the nature and extent of cultural resources on the property. This investigation by the City's Archaeology Program followed standard City policies and to date have involved a review of available historic documents and previous archaeological efforts in the area, a systematic survey of the property, and limited test excavations. The results indicate that in addition to known historical resources, which form the basis for Fish Island's nomination to the National Register of Historic Places,

other resources that lay buried and undetected also contribute to the property's unique and significant archaeological heritage. These include: 1) knowing the full nature and extent of historical deposits associated with the plantation (especially outlying buildings and features that contributed to the plantation's economy and ambience) and 2) defining the presence of earlier prehistoric Native American occupations some, of which, contributed to the layout of the historic Fish plantation.

Both the survey and limited test excavations reveal that archaeological deposits are, for the most part, shallow and partially disturbed. Only 3 to 10 inches (8 to 25 cm) of intact cultural midden deposits associated with prehistoric St. Johns culture have been documented in the largest of three prehistoric sites identified in the project area. Atop this intact midden is another 4 to 10 inches (9 to 26 cm) of archaeological deposits that have been disturbed by agricultural activities associated with the plantation.

While it is our opinion that shallow, partially disturbed cultural midden deposits are unlikely to contribute significant new information concerning the St. Johns culture for the region, the discovery of intact features lying underneath the cultural midden of the largest site warrant further investigation. These features can yield clues as to the building locations, processing and activity areas, and general use of the property. To expedite these further efforts, selected locations that will be adversely impacted, need to be mechanically stripped to look for features lying underneath the shell midden. These locations, however, need to be determined based on development plans in order for an effective data recovery strategy to be formulated.

It also is our contention that only the largest of the three prehistoric sites needs to be investigated through mechanical stripping. The smaller two prehistoric sites have either been 1) compromised by construction of State Route 312 and the Mickler-O'Connell Bridge (parcel 1) or 2) are within a conservation easement area (parcel 3). For the prehistoric component located at the north edge of parcel 1, it should be noted that it may be part of the Troll Site (8SJ3299) identified as being on Fish Island under the Mickler-O'Connell Bridge (Stokes 1996). As such, portions of this prehistoric site could possibly extend into Parcel 2 on the north side of the bridge, which has been covered in dredge fill and could not be investigated by hand during the

survey. The other prehistoric component located in parcel 3 is, for the most part, protected from development. It should also be stated that portions of the larger prehistoric site will be protected in the conservation easement zone established for the plantation's main house complex, i.e., the house, well, and block house (Figure 21).

While most of the visible remains for the plantation are protected in conservation easement zones, a few potentially significant locations are outside these zones. One such area (Feature 13) has already been investigated and the only decision remaining is the disposition of the tomb itself: should it be protected *in situ* or moved? The other unprotected locations are on either side of the conservation easement corridor established for the main house. These include the area of Jesse Fish's tomb and an area identified as representing the slave or workers quarters. Neither of these areas has been tested beyond shovel pits, although the City still plans to implement limited test excavations and surface mapping in the slave/worker quarters to determine whether the area is associated with residences or other outbuildings of the plantation.

Three mitigation steps should be taken for area Fish's tomb, which occurs approximately 230 feet south of the main house: 1) the area should be cleared of vegetation, 2) the remaining coquina stone mapped, and 3) a test unit placed in the area to determine if any human bone is present. The reason for mapping the coquina stone is due to the fact that this is probably the only tangible evidence that still remains of the tomb. This area should also be investigated using remote sensing equipment (e.g., ground-penetrating radar) to determine if additional gravesites are nearby.

Between 100 to 300 feet north of the main house is the area of the proposed slave or workers quarters. Unfortunately, a limited testing program has yet to be established to determine whether subsurface historic materials are present especially building foundations, trash areas, and possible burials. Moreover, the City is planning to map the distribution of coquina stone fragments as a means of establishing the presence of possible buildings. Until these steps are completed and the purpose of the area establish can recommendations be forthcoming. It is expected, however, that additional archaeological efforts will need to occur in this area and will need to be based on a development plan.

Beside the obvious mitigation of areas selected for development, limited testing also should be implemented in the conservation easement zones to gain a better understanding of the architectural characteristics of these historic features. Moreover, the city does feel that these areas warrant some testing, since they will inevitably be impacted during clearing of the brush. This testing would involve the removal of surface detritus and topsoil to map wall foundations and/or soil stains associated with archaeological deposits. A few test pits within the features also will be excavated to establish the nature of subsurface deposits and to recover additional artifacts for dating purposes that will provide a better understanding as to the economy and life styles associated with the plantation. It should be noted that limited testing in conservation easement zones should be implemented primarily after archaeological deposits outside of these areas have been investigated; thereby not holding up construction.

Finally, monitoring should occur for all ground-penetrating construction or tree removal activities both within and outside the protected zones to insure that any significant archaeological features (e.g., prehistoric or historic burials) undocumented during archaeological field testing are recorded and, if need be, properly conserved. Given the likelihood of submerged Archaic remains mentioned above and the heavy use of water transportation of people and goods during both the historic and pre-historic eras; monitoring should also be considered if construction extends into marsh environments to document any submerge cultural resources (e.g., Archaic sites or vessels).

Fish Island and the adjacent 12-acres are very significant cultural properties containing the historic plantation site of Jesse Fish, which has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Because the property was recently annexed into the City of St. Augustine and is slated to be developed, the City has taken a proactive stance in protecting the cultural heritage of this property. By documenting the archaeological deposits present, through a systematic survey that was followed by limited test excavations, the City is able to develop an understanding of the nature and characteristics of the archaeological deposits present. The recommendations presented herein are based not only on archaeological data, but also on statements made by the

present property owners who have generously set aside locations containing significant historical features as protected areas. This report is intended to be used in developing a more comprehensive data recovery program prior to the property's development, which will adversely impact these resources.

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**APPENDIX A**

**National Register Nomination Form for Fish Island**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

85J62 FROM FILES

STATE:	
Florida	
COUNTY:	
St. Johns	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME							
<p>COMMON: <b>Fish Island Site</b></p> <p>AND/OR HISTORIC:</p>							
2. LOCATION							
<p>STREET AND NUMBER:</p> <p>CITY OR TOWN: <b>St. Augustine</b></p>							
STATE <b>Florida</b>	CODE <b>12</b>	COUNTY: <b>St. Johns</b>	CODE <b>109</b>				
3. CLASSIFICATION							
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC			
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress			
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment				<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <b>Vacant land</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY							
OWNER'S NAME: <b>Pierre D. Thompson and Harold E. Ryman</b>	STREET AND NUMBER: <b>Thompson-Bailey Agency, 8 Cathedral Place</b>			STATE: <b>Florida</b>	CODE <b>12</b>		
CITY OR TOWN: <b>St. Augustine</b>		STATE: <b>Florida</b>	CODE <b>12</b>	STATE: <b>Florida</b>			
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION							
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: <b>St. Johns County Courthouse</b>				STATE: <b>Florida</b>	CODE <b>12</b>		
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Corner King and Cordova Streets</b>		STATE: <b>Florida</b>	CODE <b>12</b>	STATE: <b>Florida</b>			
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS							
TITLE OF SURVEY: <b>None</b>				ENTRY NUMBER	DATE		
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				FOR NPS USE ONLY			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:							
STREET AND NUMBER:							
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE				

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)			(Check One)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered			
			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved			
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The area is presently a coastal hardwood hammock, approximately 5 feet above mean low water. It is approximately 900 feet wide (E-W) and 2,900 feet long (N-S). There are still some traces of historic structures scattered over the site. This is usually in the form of scattered building rubble, although there is a portion of one chimney surviving as well as the footing for a structure of what may have been a boat house.

The Morton sketch of 1867 shows a two story coquina house with a chimney in one end and a arched loggia/porch along one side, reflecting a typical St. Augustine style of architecture. The island was evidently covered with an extensive orange grove.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## S E S I E N S I N S T R U C T I O N S

8. SIGNIFICANCE																																								
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<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		<u>Early Territorial</u>																																					
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		<u>Period)</u>																																					
<p>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</p> <p>Fish's Island takes its name from Jesse Fish who acquired it at the end of the First Spanish Period (1763). This site is still known as Fish's Island. The property stayed in the hands of the Fish family throughout the succeeding British Period (1763-1783), the Second Spanish Period (1783-1821), and on into the U.S. Period (1821-). After Fish took over the island his name was popularly given to all of what is now Anastasia Island. Eventually, however, the designation was narrowed to the location of his plantation which is insulated by creeks and a marsh.</p> <p>Jesse Fish apparently purchased the property from the departing Spaniards and the new British regime allowed him to keep his island out of all the vast tracts of land which he and John Gordon claimed they had purchased from the Spanish at the end of the First Spanish Period. The original grant from the Spanish governor consisted of ten thousand acres. A contemporary, Bernard Romans, described the grant in the 1770's as a "pretty retreat" some four miles from Saint Augustine with barren land that was more "pleasant than profitable."</p> <p>The pretty but barren retreat, however, became the site of Fish's world-famous plantation, El Vergel (the Garden). Probably set out early in the British Period, it was the most outstanding grove in Florida in this period. Here Fish experimented in raising dates and olives and profitably exported fruit--including, of course, oranges--juice, and a spirituous beverage called "orange shrub." The oranges were picked when almost ripe, wrapped in paper, and gently placed into barrels. The flavor then supposedly remained intact until the oranges arrived at their destination which might be as far away as London. Thus, the island became known for the "flavour" of its oranges, its excellent garden, its lighthouse and a coquina quarry. Fish's home on his island was in the style of a southern country house with a steep roof and porches on two floors that ran the width of the house.</p> <p>Fish retired to his island to spend the remaining years of his life after having married in his mature years a good-looking young girl who turned out to be such a "madcap" that</p>																																								

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he did not want to be "present at her improdences." Fish married Sara Warner (?) in a Protestant ceremony in Saint Augustine in 1768. A native of Long Island, New York, and a Protestant, Fish first came to Saint Augustine ca. 1736 (First Spanish Period). He arrived in the Spanish, Catholic colony while still a youth of ten or twelve--having been sent to the foreign settlement to learn its language, laws, and usages in order to serve the William Walton Company of New York City. Fish eventually became resident agent or factor in Saint Augustine for the company which enjoyed trade privileges with Saint Augustine in this period since Spain was unable to supply the Florida outpost from Spanish sources. Fish claimed he was "early made Spanish in customs, language, and disposition," but he apparently kept his Protestant religion. He remained in Saint Augustine during the final stages of the French and Indian War when England and Spain were on opposing sides-- perhaps in part because he knew too much for the Spanish to expel him-- and he did, in fact, aid them in the fall of 1762 by helping the Floridians clandestinely obtain much-needed supplies from English Carolina. The most controversial aspect of Fish's career, however, concerns his acquisition of extensive property at the end of the First Spanish Period. He acquired numerous unsold properties in Saint Augustine itself, probably in trust, from a Spanish agent, Juan Josef Elixio de la Puente, who wanted to circumvent the time limit for sale of property set by the peace treaty. Fish and another English subject, John Gordon, also acquired at this time vast tracts of land outside of Saint Augustine including, of course, Fish's Island.

By the time of the Second Spanish Period, Fish had fallen into hard times. He had left his affairs in the hands of his wife's kinfolks when he retired to his island and through mismanagement he was left in debt. In 1789 he described his condition as "unhappy". His plantation home had fallen into such a state of deterioration that it did not afford him the "protection necessary against inclemencies of the weather" according to a Spanish official in Florida who was sympathetic to the plight of the long-time resident of the province.

Jesse Fish died in February, 1790, in debt and was buried on his plantation. His island estate, El Vergel, was put up for auction in 1792 by the Spanish authorities at Saint Augustine to satisfy his creditors including old residents of Florida who had turned over their properties to Fish in 1763-1764. The Spanish governor, Juan Nepomuceno de Quesada, appointed a commission to appraise his estate. The ninth item in their report particularly referred to Fish's Orange Grove (El Vergel).

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## INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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## Valuation by Commission

## 9th item

Pesos and Reales \*

540 large orange trees, best quality, at three dollars, which amounts, in hard dollars to	1,620 0
300 small, bearing trees, at 4 <u>reales</u>	150 0
250 to transplant, at 3 <u>reales</u>	93 6
400 sour, at 4 <u>reales</u>	200 0
120 medlars **at 4 <u>reales</u>	60 0
75 fig trees, at 2 <u>reales</u>	18 6
70 peach trees, valued at	12 4
80 pomegranates, at 2 <u>reales</u>	20 0
A plantation of lime trees, valued at	25 0

At the auction held in the square in front of Government House in Saint Augustine in March, 1792, Jesse Fish Junior was the only bidder for the island of the Orange Grove (El Vergel). He paid \$1,605.00 for the property--no mention of houses and no title stated-- and lots.

The boundaries of Fish's island estate were not taken into consideration by the appraisers of his estate but only the valuation of the trees in the Grove, without noticing the ten thousand acres annexed to it. This defect, the fault of the appraisers, led Fish to petition in 1794 that the ten thousand acres belonging to his late father's plantation be granted to him. He said he had expected to receive not only the trees but the land as well, which he wanted for sentimental reasons since it was his birthplace and the home of his sisters whom he had to support with only the insufficient income from the Grove. He claimed that the land would not produce crops of any kind and that the trees were drying up. Fish won the dispute in 1795. The Spanish authorities accepted his claim and granted him the ten thousand acres adjoining El Vergel which he said his father had held--excepting the King's Quarry which had originally been reserved back in the First Spanish Period and was again reserved

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## INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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to supply stone for repairing the fort and other public buildings.

Sarah Fish, the widow of Jesse Fish Senior and mother of Jesse Fish Junior, filed claim to Anastasia Island--supposed to contain ten thousand acres, more or less--in 1823 (U.S. Period) based on the ownership of her husband in 1763 and her son in 1792, both of them then deceased. The U.S. Commissioners recommended her claim for the ten thousand acres for confirmation as a valid Spanish grant on December 16, 1825. The United States Congress confirmed the claim on March 23, 1828. Thus the site remained intact, all ten thousand acres, from the original grant in the First Spanish Period through several changes of government into the early American Period.

El Vergel appears to have had its peak of prosperity during the British Period (1763-1783) and to have begun its decline at the end of Jesse Fish Senior's life during the Second Spanish Period (1783-1821). John Lee Williams describes Fish's Island or Anastasia Island in 1837 as having been granted to Jesse Fish by the Spanish government except for the King's quarries and the site of the Tower, with his heirs still in possession. He says there are a few hundred acres of excellent land, "a part of which is improved in a fine orange grove." He mentions a lighthouse in place of the old Spanish Tower and the extensive quarries of coquina stone which have furnished stone for the principal buildings of Saint Augustine, the Fort, sea wall and other buildings. Constance Fennimore Woolson described part of what was left of the plantation itself in 1874--the ruins of a mansion, a solitary tomb, massive and dark. Today very little remains of once flourishing El Vergel and the site is much reduced in size.

It is felt the Fish Island Site warrants National Register nomination because it is likely to yield important information on the late colonial and early territorial period of Florida history. The one site transcends four periods (End of First Spanish Period, British Period, Second Spanish Period and Early Territorial years) and through historical, archaeological studies should provide significant cultural history data.

\* This column represents "hard dollars," or Spanish money.  
\*\* A medlar is a small, Asiatic malaceous tree, the fruit of which resembles a crab apple; used much in making preserves; the term is often incorrectly applied to the loquat.

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See Attached Sheet)

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
29° 51' 58"	81° 18' 15"	
NE	29° 51' 58"	81° 18' 07"
SE	29° 51' 32"	81° 17' 56"
SW	29° 51' 32"	81° 18' 06"

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
O R	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
	0° 0' 0"	0° 0' 0"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 60

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Robert H. Steinbach, Director of Research

ORGANIZATION

Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board

DATE

June 21, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:

46 St. George Street, Box 1987

CITY OR TOWN:

St. Augustine

STATE

Florida

CODE

12

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local 

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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## INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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9.

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Saint Augustine Historical Society

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(July 1969)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

Florida

COUNTY

St. Johns

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ENTRY NUMBER

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9.

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p      Vol. 1. Claims Unconfirmed. 1st ed.  
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	Florida
COUNTY	St. Johns
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME  
COMMON: Fish Island  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
CITY OR TOWN:  
St. Augustine  
STATE: Florida CODE: 12 COUNTY: St. Johns CODE: 109

3. PHOTO REFERENCE  
PHOTO CREDIT: Saint Augustine Historical Society  
DATE OF PHOTO: 1867 (1971)  
NEGATIVE FILED AT:  
Saint Augustine Historical Society, 271 Charlotte St.

4. IDENTIFICATION  
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.  
Plate from Morton's sketchbook



the stately house  
on fish's island -

22 March 07

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STRUCTURE

STATE	Florida	
COUNTY	St. Johns	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

1. NAME		
COMMON: Fish Island		
AND/OR HISTORIC:		
2. LOCATION.		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: St. Augustine		
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:
Florida	12	St. Johns
CODE	CODE	
109		
3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. Saint Augustine Beach Quad. Florida 7.5 Minute Series		
SCALE: 1:24000		
DATE: 1956		
4. REQUIREMENTS		
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Property boundaries where required.</li> <li>2. North arrow.</li> <li>3. Latitude and longitude reference.</li> </ol>		

## **APPENDIX B**

### Artifact Inventory for the Archaeological Survey of Fish Island

## APPENDIX B

### Artifact Inventory for the Archaeological Survey of Fish Island

<b>Shovel Test</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Artifact</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Depth</b>
975N/925E	1	Bos Taurus Toe Horn	15.1g	16-37cm
	1	St. Johns Plain	3.0g	16-37cm
	1	Grit-Tempered	5.3g	16-37cm
1350N/925E	5	Fiber-Tempered	67.5g	35-50cm
	1	Sand-Tempered Plain	2.3g	35-50cm
975N/950E	3	UID Bone	0.5g	11-24cm
	1	UID Metal Frag	1.1g	11-24cm
	1	St. Johns Plain	2.4g	11-24cm
	2	Abo Disc	1.4g	11-24cm
1325N/950E	1	St. Johns Plain	4.7g	0-32cm
800N/975E	1	Fiber-Tempered Rim	5.4g	0-82cm
	1	St. Johns Check Stamped	3.0g	0-82cm
	1	St. Johns Plain	4.3g	10-33cm
850N/975E	1	UID Bone	4.6g	0-33cm
	1	Sandy St Johns Plain	2.5g	17-47cm
	1	Brown Bottle Glass Frag	1.4g	0-17cm
950N/975E	1	Clear Glass Frag	1.8g	0-17cm
	1	Brick Frag	19.8g	0-24cm
	1	Lt. Green Glass Frag	0.7g	0-24cm
975N/975E	1	Annular- Wormy-Finger Painted	0.8g	0-36cm
	1	Whiteware Plain	2.2g	0-36cm
	2	UID B/W Handpainted Porcelain	1.2g	0-36cm
	1	Olive Green Glass Lip	10.0g	0-36cm
	1	Amber Glass Frag	0.5g	0-36cm
	1	Cut Nail Frag	8.5g	0-36cm
	1	Bos Taurus or Equus Tooth	7.3g	0-36cm
	1	Black Leadglazed CEW	0.8g	0-36cm
	1	UID Blue Stoneware	5.2g	0-36cm
	1	Coquina Frag	9.9g	0-36cm
1000N/975E	1	Olive Green Glass	4.3g	4-25cm
	1	Brown Glass	2.0g	4-25cm
	1	Lt. Green Glass	2.2g	4-25cm
	1	Blue Glass	0.4g	4-25cm
	1	Clear Glass	2.3g	4-25cm
	1	B/W Transfer-print Pearlware	3.3g	4-25cm
	1	B/W Transfer-print Whitewarre	0.8g	4-25cm
	1	Annular-Wormy-Finger Painted	1.2g	4-25cm
	1	Green Leadglazed CEW	3.5g	4-25cm
	1	Brick Frag	37.5g	4-25cm
1025N/975E	1	Square-shanked Nail	9.9g	4-25cm
	1	Pearlware Plain	2.1g	0-23cm

1050N/975E	1	Pearlware Plain Base	2.9g	0-30cm
	1	UID Yellow Leadglazed CEW Rim	1.1cm	0-30cm
	1	UID Molded Refined Earthenware	0.9g	0-30cm
	1	St. Johns Check Stamped	20.3g	0-30cm
1075N/975E	1	UID Bone	2.0g	9-47cm
	1	UID Glass	7.1g	9-47cm
	1	Pearlware	2.5g	9-47cm
	1	B/W Transfer-print Pearlware or Whiteware	2.5g	9-47cm
	4	Whiteware Plain	17.1g	9-47cm
	1	UID Polycrome CEW	4.1g	9-47cm
	3	Square-shanked Nail Frags	16.5g	9-47cm
775N/1000E	1	Fiber-tempered Eroded	1.5g	0-30cm
	2	Coquina Frags	42.7g	0-30cm
800N/1000E	10	St. Johns Eroded	12.5g	8-36cm
	4	UID Bone	3.7g	8-36cm
825N/1000E	10	St. Johns Plain	19.8g	20-40cm
	2	Sand Tempered Plain	9.7g	20-40cm
	2	UID Bone	1.8g	20-40cm
	1	UID Iron Object	34.5g	0-20cm
	2	Nail Frags	8.6g	0-20cm
850N/1000E	1	Sandy St. Johns Eroded	6.2g	0-26cm
	1	St. Johns Eroded	4.6g	0-26cm
	1	St. Johns Check Stamped	3.3g	0-26cm
	1	UID Bone	0.4g	0-26cm
875N/1000E	1	St. Johns Plain	2.5g	0-31cm
	1	Abo Disc	0.4g	0-31cm
	1	Uid Bone	0.6g	0-31cm
900N/1000E	2	Brown Bottle Glass Base Frag	94.6g	0-45cm
	1	Uid Burnt Bone	0.4g	0-45cm
	3	St. Johns Plain	5.0g	0-45cm
	2	Sand-tempered Plain	6.6g	0-45cm
	3	Abo Disc	1.0g	0-45cm
	3	UID Fired Clay Frags	0.9g	0-45cm
925N/1000E	6	St. Johns Plain	7.5g	0-55cm
	1	St. Johns Eroded Rim	3.5g	0-55cm
	1	Sand-tempered Plain	1.9g	0-55cm
	5	Abo Disc	1.9g	0-55cm
	15	UID Bone	4.8g	0-55cm
	1	Cut Nail	8.2g	0-55cm
	1	Iron Frag	0.8g	0-55cm
950N/1000E	1	Pearlware Plain	3.3g	0-55cm
	1	B/W Handpainted Pearlware	1.9g	0-55cm
	1	Handpainted Gaudy Dutch	2.8g	0-55cm
		Pearlware		
	1	Creamware Ringfoot Base	6.8g	0-55cm

950N/1000E	1	Slate Frag	1.8g	0-55cm
cont.				
	1	Brick Frag	0.6g	0-55cm
	2	Concrete Frags	6.0g	0-55cm
	13	UID Bone	3.6g	0-55cm
950N/1000E	1	Mammal Tooth Frag	1.4g	0-55m
	1	St. Johns Plain	2.2g	0-55cm
	7	Abo Disc	5.0g	0-55cm
	1	Sand-tempered Plain	2.3g	0-55cm
	1	Sand-tempered Burnished	2.4g	0-55m
	6	Iron Frags	9.1g	0-55cm
	5	Cut Nail Frags	21.5g	0-55cm
975N/1000E	3	Brick Frags	80.3g	0-90cm
	5	Tabby	59.4g	0-90cm
	1	Coquina Frag	6.7g	0-90cm
	--	Charcoal	0.9g	0-90cm
	1	St. Johns Plain	0.4g	0-90cm
	8	Abo Disc	6.8g	0-90cm
	14	Burnt Bone Frags	10.5g	0-90cm
	2	Burnt Small Mammal Frag	1.6g	0-90cm
	1	Sus Scrofa Astragalus Frag	11.4g	0-90cm
	1	Bos Taurus Phalange Frag	10.0g	0-90cm
	5	Mammilla Teeth	2.0g	0-90cm
	1	Drum Fish Tooth	<0.1	0-90cm
	2	Fish Vertebra	0.2g	0-90cm
	1	Chondrichthyes Vertebra Frag	<0.1g	0-90cm
	5	Testudines Shell Frags	3.2g	0-90cm
	1	Distal End of an Ulna to Small Mammal	0.4g	0-90cm
	1	Gallus Gallus Furculum Frag	<0.1g	0-90cm
	40	UID Bone Frag	34.7g	0-90cm
	5	Mammal Teeth Frag	1.6g	0-90cm
	1	UID Bird Bone Frag	0.5g	0-90cm
	1	Crab Claw Frag	0.7g	0-90cm
	1	Iron Washer Frag	<0.1g	0-90cm
	1	Square-Cut Nail	30.5g	0-90cm
	13	Square-shanked Nail Frags	39.1g	0-90cm
	9	UID Nail Frags	14.0g	0-90cm
	1	UID Iron Object	6.5g	0-90cm
	1	UID Iron Frag	10.7g	0-90cm
	19	Iron Frags	27.8g	0-90cm
	1	Sprue	2.1g	0-90cm
	3	Olive Green Bottle Glass Frags	17.6g	0-90cm
	1	Olive Green Glass Frag	0.5g	0-90cm
	5	Aqua Glass Frags	1.5g	0-90cm
	1	Lt. Green Glass Frag	0.4g	0-90cm

975N/1000E	1	Lt. Aqua Glass Frag	1.8g	0-90cm
cont.				
	1	UID Cut Glass Object (possible button insert)	0.7g	0-90cm
	2	Pipe Stems (dates 1720-1780)	4.5g	0-90cm
	3	Pearlware Plain	7.9g	0-90cm
	3	Whiteware Plain	17.6g	0-90cm
	1	Pearlware Lid	11.0g	0-90cm
	1	B/W Transfer-print Pearlware	2.3g	0-90cm
	2	Handpainted Pearlware	2.2g	0-90cm
	1	B/W Porcelain	0.5g	0-90cm
	2	Porcelain Plain Rim	6.8g	0-90cm
	4	Whiteware Plain	6.3g	0-90cm
	1	Reyware	0.3g	0-90cm
	1	Yellowware	2.9g	0-90cm
	1	UID Crock	24.9g	0-90cm
	2	Handpainted Pearlware	2.5g	0-90cm
1025N/1000E	1	UID Bone Fragment	0.6g	5-26cm
	1	UID Fish Bone Frag	0.3g	5-26cm
	1	St. Johns Plain	1.1g	5-26cm
	1	Sand-tempered Plain	1.6g	5-26cm
	2	Abo Disc	0.8g	5-26cm
	1	UID Glass Frag	14.0g	5-26cm
1050N/1000E	1	Flat Clear Glass Frag	0.3g	0-35cm
	2	Whiteware Plain	5.3g	0-35cm
	1	B/W Molded Handpainted	1.0g	0-35cm
		Pearlware		
	1	St. Johns Plain	1.1g	0-35cm
1075N/1000E	2	Olive Green Glass Kick-Up Frags	24.5g	0-44cm
	1	Molded Pearlware Handle	7.4g	0-44cm
	1	Whiteware Plain	5.0g	0-44cm
	2	Nail Frags	7.6g	0-44cm
	1	UID Metal Frag	5.0g	0-44cm
	1	Tabby Frag	24.4g	0-44cm
	1	Brick Frag	25.5g	0-44cm
	1	St. Johns Plain	0.9cm	0-44cm
	7	Testudines Bone Frags	8.0g	0-44cm
1100N/1000E	1	Large Mammal Bone Frag (on surface)	24.7g	0cm
	1	UID Iron Frag	1.8g	0-15cm
1125N/1000E	1	St. Johns Plain	9.1g	0-44cm
725N/1025E	1	Sand-tempered Plain	1.2g	20-51cm
750N/1025E	1	Sand-tempered Eroded	4.6g	27-45cm
775N/1025E	2	St. Johns Plain	1.6g	34-51cm
	1	St. Johns Check Stamped	1.0g	34-51cm
800N/1025E	2	St. Johns Plain	2.6g	30-51cm

800N/1025E	1	Sand-tempered Plain	2.7g	30-51cm
cont.				
	3	Abo Disc	2.0g	30-51cm
825N/1025E	1	Whiteware/Ironstone	0.3g	31-52cm
	1	UID Bone	0.1g	31-52cm
	1	Moonsnail	20.5g	31-52cm
850N/1025E	1	St. Johns Plain	1.3g	20-30cm
875N/1025E	4	St. Johns Plain	5.5g	0-40cm
	1	St. Johns Check Stamped Rim	21.5g	0-40cm
	2	Sandy St. Johns Check Stamped	5.0g	0-40cm
	11	Abo Disc	5.0g	0-40cm
	3	UID Bone	1.2g	0-40cm
950N/1025E	1	Sand-tempered Plain	2.5g	6-30cm
975N/1025E	1	Lead-Musket Ball	2.7g	0-30cm
	2	Square-shanked Wrought Iron Nail	9.6g	0-30cm
		Frags		
	3	UID Bone	1.8g	0-30cm
	2	Sand-tempered Plain	13.5g	0-30cm
1000N/1025E	1	Square-shanked Wrought Iron Nail	3.6g	0-30cm
		Frags		
	1	Square-shanked Nail	9.3g	0-30cm
	1	St. Johns Plain	3.7g	0-30cm
	1	Grit-tempered Rectilinear Stamped	4.0g	0-30cm
1025N/1025E	1	Brick Frag	5.0g	0-34cm
	1	Whiteware/Ironstone Plain	15.2	0-34cm
1050N/1025E	1	Flat Clear Glass	0.5g	0-10cm
	2	Clear Container Glass	41.2g	0-10cm
	2	Clear Bottle Lip Frags	3.3g	0-10cm
1075N/1025E	1	Pearlware Plain	1.1g	0-20cm
	1	Handpainted Pearlware	2.2g	0-20cm
	1	UID Refined Earthenware	0.5g	0-20cm
	1	Square-shanked Nail Frag	1.9g	0-20cm
	2	Coquina Frags	24.5g	0-20cm
1000N/1025E	1	Olive Green Glass Frag	1.0g	0-24cm
	1	Clear Glass Frag	0.9g	0-24cm
	1	Iron Frag	5.0g	0-24cm
700N/1050E	1	Sandy St. Johns Plain	2.7g	47-79cm
725N/1050E	1	Sand-tempered Plain	6.7g	45-86cm
750N/1050E	3	Sand-tempered Plain	6.5g	5-30cm
775N/1050E	1	Sand-tempered Plain	2.3g	5-25cm
800N/1050E	2	St. Johns Eroded	1.7g	30-50cm
	1	UID Bone	3.6g	30-50cm
825N/1050E	3	Sandy St. Johns Eroded	5.6g	30-50cm
	1	Square-shanked Nail	15.1g	30-50cm
850N/1050E	4	St. Johns Eroded	10.1g	0-34cm
	2	Sand-tempered Plain	6.1g	0-34cm

850N/1050E	3	UID Bone	3.2g	0-34cm
cont.				
875N/1050E	6	St. Johns Plain	15.8g	30-50cm
	2	St. Johns Eroded Check Stamped	11.8g	30-50cm
900N/1050E	3	Fiber-tempered	14.0g	34-100cm
	2	Abo Disc	1.9g	34-100cm
	2	UID Fish Bone	1.1g	11-33cm
925N/1050E	1	St. Johns Plain	2.6g	15-30cm
	1	Sand-tempered Plain	9.8g	15-30cm
950N/1050E	1	Olive Green Bottle Glass Frag	4.6g	0-30cm
	1	UID Iron Nail	4.7g	0-30cm
	1	UID Clinched Nail	6.6g	0-30cm
	1	Abo Disc	0.6g	0-30cm
975N/1050E	26	Burnt Bone (modern-on surface)	25.1g	0cm
	2	Slag Frag	5.2g	0-67cm
	1	B/W Delft	0.2g	0-67cm
	1	Flat Clear Glass Frag	0.8g	0-67cm
	3	Iron Frags	4.3g	0-67cm
	24	Circular Modern Nails	30.9g	0-67cm
	1	Bullet Casing	0.7g	0-67cm
	1	St. Johns Plain	1.8g	0-67cm
	1	Sand-tempered Plain	5.4g	0-67cm
	3	Abo Disc	2.0g	0-67cm
1000N/1050E	1	UID Mammal Bone	10.8g	15-30cm
1025N/1050E	1	UID Bone	0.7g	7-60cm
	1	Canis Mandibular Frag	10.7g	7-60cm
	1	Coquina Frag	32.2g	7-60cm
675N/1075E	1	Abo Disc	0.6g	0-23cm
725N/1075E	2	Chert Flakes	1.2g	50cm
800N/1075E	3	Sandy St. Johns Plain	4.4g	0-25cm
	19	UID Bone Frags	10.2g	0-25cm
825N/1075E	1	Sand-tempered Plain	0.6g	10-20cm
	1	Sand-tempered Complicated Stamped	4.4g	10-20cm
	5	UID Bone Frags	4.7g	10-20cm
850N/1075E	1	St. Johns Eroded	14.5g	20-30cm
875N/1075E	1	St. Johns Plain	1.5g	0-29cm
	1	Red Ochre Frag	0.8g	0-29cm
900N/1075E	1	St. Johns Eroded	2.6g	0-50cm
925N/1075E	4	Abo Disc	3.5g	10-40cm
	1	Square-shanked Nail Frag	1.8g	10-40cm
950N/1075E	1	Brick Frag	0.7g	0-30cm
	1	Pearlware Plain	1.1g	0-30cm
	1	Iron Frag	1.0g	0-30cm
	1	UID Bone Frag	0.5g	0-30cm
1000N/1075E	1	Jackfield	0.5g	14-38cm

700N/1100E	1	St. Johns Eroded	1.4g	12-40cm
550N/1125E	1	Orange Fiber-tempered	10.4g	70-90cm
	1	Orange Fiber-tempered Incised Rim	20.8g	70-90cm
	1	Coquina Frag	36.8g	0-15cm
1525N/1175E	2	St. Johns Plain	13.0g	11-21cm
	3	Abo Disc	2.1g	11-21cm
1525N/1200E	1	Sponged Pearlware	1.9g	9-25cm
	3	St. Johns Eroded	2.5g	9-25cm
1500N/1225E	1	Whiteware Plain	2.9g	7-20cm
	1	Glazed Brick Frag	203.2g	7-20cm
1525N/1225E	--	Tabby Floor Remains	--g	6-18cm
1550N/1225E	1	B/W Transfer-print Whiteware	2.6g	0-18cm
1500N/1250E	7	St. Johns Plain	16.6g	10-32cm
	1	UID Bone Frag	0.9g	10-32cm